

## U.N. asked to condemn Israeli actions

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The General Assembly was asked Wednesday to condemn Israel's tough measures in the occupied territories, including an incident six days ago in the village of Nabatieh that caused several Palestinian deaths. A draft resolution circulated as the world body resumed debate on the continuing bloodshed would also condemn Israel for violating the "right of freedom of worship of the Palestinian people under occupation." The Security Council would also be asked to convene no later than April 27 to consider measures to protect Palestinian civilians. Zaki Labib Tarr, head of the Palestine Observer Mission, said in an address that the issue was brought to the assembly because one permanent member — the United States — would not permit even a statement critical of Israel to be issued by the council. He appealed to the American delegation — now led by Thomas Pickering, former ambassador to Israel — to stop pushing "the red light" that records negative votes. Past American "obduracy" in opposing resolutions dealing with the occupied territories — encouraged Israel's harsh response to the uprising, that began in December 1987, Tarr said. "We will continue in our struggle," he said.

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## Bush vows his utmost to meet Jordan's economic and military requirements

# King wins U.S. pledge to build serious peace process

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

WASHINGTON — His Majesty King Hussein and U.S. President George Bush Wednesday held talks on the Middle East and said after-

wards Jordan and the U.S. were launching the task of structuring a serious negotiating process for peace in the region.

Winding up an hour-long meeting at the White House, the King said Bush was "in a unique position" to help end the Arab-Israeli conflict, adding: "I can assure you that I fully support you in all your efforts in this regard."

Bush reaffirmed that Jordan's security remained of fundamental concern to the U.S. and said he had reassured the King that Washington would do "its utmost to help meet Jordan's economic and military requirements."

King Hussein praised Bush as "the right leader, in the right office at the right time" to move the peace process forward.

He earlier told reporters he believed the time was ripe for a breakthrough in the Middle East.

He reaffirmed the requirements for peace, including Israeli talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and a U.N.-sponsored international conference as a forum for negotiations on a comprehensive settlement.

Bush reiterated the U.S. view that "a properly structured international conference could serve at an appropriate time as a means to facilitate direct negotiations between the parties."

The King held a closed meeting with Bush before being joined by senior officials from both sides.

In his remarks at the White House Rose Garden, the King praised the U.S. for opening a dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and said that, coupled with the PLO's renunciation of terrorism in December, had improved prospects for peace.

He expressed hope for more flexibility on Israel's part.

"Peace can neither be negotiated nor achieved without PLO participation," the King said.

Following is the text of Bush's statement:

"Well, I've had the pleasure and honour of an intimate discussion with an old friend, His Majesty King Hussein, of Jordan."

The relationship between Jordan and the United States has deep roots. It's founded on a commonality of interests and mutual respect, and it is in this spirit that His Majesty and I reviewed the situation in the Middle East, and in particular, the search for Arab-Israeli peace. We talked also about the concerns that we both have about Lebanon.

"Few individuals can match the dedication of His Majesty King Hussein to the cause of peace. For his is a commitment to explore opportunities, examine options, pursue possibilities. And I explained to him our thinking on the need to diffuse tensions, to promote dialogue, to foster the process of negotiations that could lead to a comprehensive settlement. And I reiterated my belief that properly designed and mutually acceptable elections could, as an initial step, contribute to a political process leading to negotiations on the final status of the West Bank and Gaza. I

also reaffirmed to His Majesty our long-standing commitment to bring about a comprehensive settlement through negotiations based on U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338, and the principle of territory for peace."

"Through these negotiations, peace and security for Israel and all states and legitimate Palestinian political rights can be realised. In addition, a properly structured international conference could serve, at the appropriate time, as a means to facilitate direct negotiations between the parties."

"The time has come to encourage fresh thinking, to avoid sterile debate and to focus on the difficult but critical work of structuring a serious negotiating process. His Majesty committed Jordan to this task, and I commit the United States to this task. An important part of this effort and of the stability of the Middle East as a whole will be the continued economic and military strength of Jordan."

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HM King Hussein



George Bush

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## Regent calls for constructive dialogue

# King: Everything under control in south Jordan

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein said Wednesday everything was under control in Jordan following the events that took place in southern Jordan in the past two days.

The King, asked at the White House by reporters to comment on the situation, said: "I believe everything is under control."

The events are "really the result of the measures that had to be taken as a result of the defaulting of several Arab states in helping us," the King said.

"We had to take some measures (to compensate for the aid loss) and obviously people feel them," the King added.

In Amman, a responsible source said Wednesday that certain events took place Tuesday and Wednesday in some cities in southern Jordan and were dealt with at the highest responsible level and with a national spirit on the part of the government and the citizens.

Both parties contained the event in the spirit of national awareness, the source said and added

that the economic measures were inevitable steps to protect the national economy. The source expressed absolute confidence in the citizens' awareness for ensuring the country's security and stability.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, held a meeting with the speaker and members of the Upper House of Parliament (Senate) and briefed them on the events and situation in the south, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said. The Regent called for a meeting of the four regional development committees to discuss the needs of the people, Petra said.

The Regent expressed understanding of the needs and problems of the people and called for a constructive dialogue in an atmosphere of calm and security.

Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Lawzi voiced the Senate's allegiance and loyalty to the King and reaffirmed the importance of protecting the security and stability of the country.

## Ministers explain results of Jordan-IMF talks, agreement

AMMAN (Petra) — The ministers of finance, supply and information met here Wednesday with a group of Jordanian writers, journalists and senior officials from the information sector to discuss the outcome of talks held in the past weeks between the Jordanian government and a team from the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Participants in the meeting were briefed on the reasons behind the recent government decision to increase the price of a number of non-basic commodities.

Finance Minister Hanna Odeh reviewed Jordan's development process over the past years during which the Kingdom "registered" high growth levels when compared with other countries in the region. During these years services were boosted, the

national economy was strengthened and production at all levels was increased, he said. Jordan's development over the past 10 years, the minister said, was closely connected with two factors: Arab financial assistance and external loans, both determined by outside forces.

The minister said strenuous efforts were exerted in the past years to increase the country's revenues but that the expenditure had constantly been on the increase and there was no way of reducing certain expenditures.

The country, he added, was involved in the execution of a number of major industrial programmes, and a clear pledge by the government to support the agricultural sector made a reduction on expenditure impossible.

The minister said the Arab region had witnessed a slump in oil prices and eventually a retreat in demand on Jordanian commodities and services which negatively affected the Kingdom's balance of payments. As a result, there was an imbalance in the general budget, and a huge gap appeared in the balance of payments, the minister said.

Servicing foreign debts aggravated the situation and forced Jordan to resort to borrowing from a number of development institutions to maintain the process of development, Odeh said. Against this, nothing was done to involve citizens in shouldering part of the burden, he said.

The five-year economic adaptation programme announced recently by the government will entail a rescheduling of the Kingdom's debts, the

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## Arab talks delayed until next week

# Explosive silence hangs over Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — A mysterious silence hung over Beirut Wednesday as residents surveyed the wreckage of five weeks of fighting which has devastated large areas of Lebanon's capital.

But shell-shocked people feared the mysterious lull in artillery duels soon dawn Tuesday would soon disappear. Only the occasional shellburst broke the stillness.

"We don't know if we will sleep in our beds or stay in shell. It's nerve racking," said one Beirut.

At least 300 people have died and nearly 900 have suffered injuries in the worst fighting in Beirut in 14 years of civil war.

Angry Lebanese Christians marched in protest Wednesday against dovish members of parliament who called for a ceasefire in the fighting after five weeks of savage shelling that killed at least 231 people.

Major-General Michel Aoun, who heads a military government in the eastern sector, welcomed their protest, telling the 1,100 marchers his "war of liberation" demanded steadfastness, blood and sacrifice.

On the international scene, Western governments, notably France, and Arab states were pressing a round of diplomatic contacts seeking a solution to the Lebanese conflict.

Tunis Friday. A spokesman in Tunis said the meeting would be held next Wednesday.

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah, head of a six-man Arab League committee seeking a solution to the Lebanese conflict, told reporters in Kuwait some ministers were unable to attend because of prior commitments, and the meeting would now take place Tuesday or Wednesday.

"The postponement of the meeting causes us regret... we had wanted it to be held at the earliest possible moment," he said.

A hand grenade was thrown overnight at the home of Member of Parliament Edmond Rizk, who acted as a spokesman Tuesday for a group of 23 Christian deputies and read out their ceasefire appeal to reporters. No one was hurt in the attack.

The group's statement, welcomed by Muslim leaders on the other side of the green line, notably failed to back Aoun's demand that Syria withdraws its 40,000 troops from Lebanon and said that coexistence was the destiny of the Lebanese people.

"When the United States says it cannot do anything against Syria it means Syria is a superpower that frightens the United States."

France said Wednesday it was stepping up diplomatic efforts to stop the slaughter in Lebanon and said other countries had cause to blush for being passive.

President Francois Mitterrand briefed his cabinet on a flurry of top-level contacts he has held this week on Lebanon.

"The president announced the continuation, in a determined fashion, of this diplomatic action in the coming days," Louis le Penec, a minister who acts as cabinet spokesman, told reporters.

A senior official chided countries which had not joined France's efforts to stop the fighting.

"So far France is the only country which does not need to blush over what it has done," Hubert Vedrine, Mitterrand's spokesman, said in a radio interview.

In London, a British government minister called for an urgent ceasefire in Lebanon and said Western powers should work with Arab countries seeking to end the crisis.



A family braves the hell in Beirut shelling.

"If this doesn't stop soon, there will be no Lebanon for anybody to govern," Foreign Office Minister William Waldegrave said in a BBC radio interview. "We are all begging that before the final apocalypse comes there is a pause."

negotiations were to be unblocked.

Azz, due here Wednesday evening, accused Iran Tuesday of sabotaging the talks by "procrastination, manoeuvring and insincerity" and warned that the negotiations "could eventually collapse."

The talks are scheduled to start Thursday afternoon at the Palais des Nations, the U.N. office in Geneva, after separate meetings between Perez de Cuellar and each of the two ministers. He said the duration of the talks depended on the

two sides. "If they are prepared to keep on discussing, I am at their disposal." A U.N. spokesman said in New York last week the talks would last at least two days.

The only progress achieved to date has been the release of a limited number of wounded prisoners of war (PoWs).

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said recently that during eight years of war just over 1,300 wounded, sick or elderly PoWs were released under its auspices.

"I believe their (the PLO's) demand is right and we support their request," Mubarak said. He told Mubarak that King Hussein, he said, would probably stress to Bush the importance of

holding an international peace conference with the equal participation of the PLO.

Asked if there was any hope for a just settlement while Shamir stayed in office, Mubarak replied:

"With regret, that is what I see and I hope I am wrong."

Mubarak said his hopes were pinned on what he called the peace forces within Israel, whom he said were intensifying their role in Israeli society.

In a newly published interview Shamir meanwhile suggested he would be willing to talk to supporters of the PLO in negotiations for an interim peace settlement, but repeated his longstanding refusal to talk to the organisation itself.

Shamir also indicated he could be flexible about American demands for foreign supervision in elections in the occupied territories as part of a peace plan he unveiled in Washington earlier this month.

A public opinion survey published by the newspaper showed 65 per cent of Israelis supported Shamir's plan.

Jewish settlers in the occupied lands, meanwhile, formed a committee that would seek to "shelve the elections plan which in the end will bring about a Palestinian state," the Al Hamishmar daily reported.

Israeli army chief Dan Shomron contradicted government leaders to say the PLO was undergoing a serious change in attitude towards Israel and "terrorism."

"In the PLO they speak — I reiterate 'speak' since nothing yet has happened — but speak of recognising Israel and even renouncing terrorism."

## 47 killed in USS Iowa blast

NORFOLK, Virginia (AP) — A fire and explosion in a giant gun turret on the battleship USS Iowa killed at least 47 people and injured an undetermined number of others Wednesday in the Atlantic Ocean, a navy commander said. The death toll "could go higher, but we don't know at this point," said Lt. Cmdr. Steve Barnett. The ship was not seriously damaged and was sailing to a rendezvous with the aircraft carrier USS Coral Sea, which has full medical facilities, said Atlantic fleet spokesman Chris Baumann. Crewmen put out the fire, flooded several rooms where explosives were stored, as a precaution, and declared the ship no longer in any danger, he said. The explosion occurred about 1400 GMT in one of the battleship's three 16-inch gun turrets as the ship was taking part in a gunnery exercise about 550 kilometres northeast of Puerto Rico. The training exercise to improve fleet readiness began April 13 and involved 19,000 people aboard 29 U.S. ships, three allied ships and shore-based aircraft. The ship's guns were being fired to check that they worked when the explosion occurred, spokesman said. There were 1,600 people aboard the ship.



## U.N. food convoy attacked in Sudan

NAIROBI (R) — Gunmen attacked the first U.N. food convoy carrying famine relief into rebel-held areas of southern Sudan and forced it to return to Kenya, a U.N. official said.

Nils Enqvist, the regional coordinator of the U.N. World Food Programme (WFP) for East Africa, said one truck was blown up and two Kenyan drivers were wounded when the convoy came under fire near Kapoeta, south-eastern Sudan Tuesday.

The 16-truck convoy was on its way from Lokichokio in north-western Kenya to the rebel-held town of Torit when it was ambushed about 30 kilometres west of Kapoeta.

Enqvist said Wednesday that a military escort provided by the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) vanished into the hush as soon as the shooting began and the convoy turned round and returned to Lokichokio.

Kapoeta is deep inside rebel territory, more than 260 kilometres from Juba, the nearest town held by government forces.

Enqvist said the attackers were presumed to be either bandits from a local tribe opposed to the SPLA or remnants of the government's militia, which is known to be still in some rebel-controlled areas.

The trucks were the first U.N.-organised relief convoy to cross the Sudanese border from Kenya since the U.N. lifeline Sudan operation was launched at the end of March.

Enqvist said the United Nations would have to organise war insurance for its drivers before attempting to send another convoy to Torit.

Several other relief agencies, including Norwegian people's aid and the International Committee of the Red Cross, were already operating into rebel-held areas of southern Sudan before the U.N. operation was launched.

The U.N. operation has suffered constant delays starting up supply lines to both government and rebel-held areas of the south. Its original aim was to move more than 100,000 tonnes of food into southern Sudan before the start of the rainy season in May.

Famine killed an estimated 250,000 people in the area last year and the United Nations' \$132 million operation is aimed at preventing a further 100,000 deaths this year.

Enqvist said there had also been a delay in starting an airlift of food to Torit from Entebbe in Uganda due to technical difficulties. But he said he hoped the airlift would start later this week with two French-built C-160 Transall planes, possibly Friday.

Norwegian people's aid has also begun trucking food from Kenya to Torit, which fell to the SPLA six weeks ago. None of its vehicles has come under attack.

## Demjanjuk optimistic

CLEVELAND (AP) — John Demjanjuk's son-in-law says the retired auto worker remains optimistic that he will not be hanged, despite being convicted in Israel one year ago of being a Nazi camp guard.

Even though a hearing on Demjanjuk's appeal of the conviction has been postponed several times, "he's in good spirits," Ed Nishnic said Tuesday. "The appeal is based strictly on law. We are confident they will have to let Mr. Demjanjuk go."

A 69-year-old Ukrainian immigrant was convicted April 18, 1988, of being the guard who operated the gas chambers at the Treblinka camp in Nazi-occupied Poland. An estimated 850,000 people were killed at the camp in 1942 and 1943.

Demjanjuk's appeal hearing before the Israeli supreme court is set for Nov. 1. He says he is a victim of mistaken identity.

Nishnic speaks weekly by telephone to Demjanjuk, who is in an Israeli prison. He said Demjanjuk's defence fund is \$140,000 in debt with legal and travel bills unpaid. But he added that the family recently received some good news.

"It looks like we have a new attorney, but because of the terror surrounding our defence team, we have to keep the man's identity a secret," Nishnic said.

Demjanjuk's former attorney, Dov Eitan, 53, a former Israeli district judge, died on Nov. 30, 1988, after he fell from the 15th floor of a hotel in occupied Jerusalem in an incident that Israeli police ruled a suicide.

Demjanjuk, who lived in a Cleveland suburb for 30 years, acknowledged the falsehood.

He said he told immigration authorities he was a farm worker in Poland during World War II because he was afraid he would be returned to the Soviet Union.

Nishnic said a crew from the CBS Programme "60 Minutes" has interviewed him and a num-



John Demjanjuk

ber of people involved with the case, including Israeli prosecutors. He is hoping the programme will run a segment on Demjanjuk that will have an impact similar to "The Thin Blue Line," a documentary about Randall Dale Adams.

Adams, who served 12½ years in prison for killing a Dallas police officer, was freed in March after new evidence was uncovered and the documentary was released.

CBS spokesman Roy Burnett said Tuesday he could not discuss the "60 Minutes" schedule.

Nishnic contended the three-judge panel that convicted Demjanjuk ignored important evidence in the case, including conflicting testimony that placed Demjanjuk in different locations at the time he is accused to have been a Nazi guard.

Demjanjuk was extradited to Israel in 1986 after U.S. District Judge Frank Battisti of Cleveland ruled that he had lied in his immigration application when he came to the United States in 1952.

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## Najibullah seeks talks with Bush

KABUL (R) — Afghan leader Najibullah Wednesday requested a meeting with U.S. President George Bush to offer a peaceful way out of the civil war which has cost more than one million lives in Afghanistan.

He said only negotiations could produce a broad-based government in a compromise binding the Soviet-backed government and the Mujahideen guerrillas.

"I would be very happy to meet with Mr. Bush to discuss a solution to the problem of Afghanistan," the Afghan president said in an interview with the U.S. television network, CBS.

He described the Mujahideen as a broad-based government in a compromise binding the Soviet-backed government and the Mujahideen guerrillas.

The Afghan government has unsuccessfully tried to enter talks with the Mujahideen leaders publicly and to share power with them in a coalition pending general elections.

The Pakistan-based rebels have also spurned a ceasefire offer from Najibullah, pledging instead

to continue the civil war until the overthrow of his government.

Najibullah denounced a U.S. decision earlier this month to appoint an envoy to the Mujahideen alliance, which is seeking international recognition.

He said the appointment of Peter Tomsen, U.S. charge d'affaires in Peking, was "unravelling in the history of diplomatic relations. It further complicates the settlement of the Afghanistan problem."

The Afghan president has portrayed himself as a devout Muslim dedicated to peace with his arch-enemies since the last Soviet troops left Afghanistan Feb. 15.

Najibullah has also pointed to military reverses by the Mujahideen as proof that his government enjoyed popular support in this land of loose alliances and tribal disputes.

The Mujahideen had argued that his government was only a Soviet puppet unable to stand on its feet and predicted its downfall

within a short space of the Soviet pullout.

The rebel alliance, financed and armed by the West, set up a rival government shortly after the Soviet pullout in the hope of gaining recognition at the expense of Kabul.

To try to prove its military muscle, Mujahideen leaders launched an offensive against the city Jalalabad March 5 to capture it as a base for their government.

Afghan government troops, using their air superiority and technical expertise, beat off the attack, forcing a military stalemate.

Najibullah said there would be no military solution to the civil war, adding the U.S. money spent on arms for the Mujahideen should be used to find a political settlement.

In a separate interview with the London-based Worldwide Television News, Najibullah said his government had entered secret negotiations with the rebel alliance.



Najibullah

He said the talks were being conducted on an individual basis, without naming those involved. "They have requested confidentiality."

The Afghan government scored a victory over the Mujahideen Tuesday when a huge convoy of military equipment and food broke through a rebel blockade and arrived in Kabul along the Salang Highway from the Soviet Union.

## King wins U.S. pledge to build peace process

Continued from page 1

dination that mark the relations between Jordan and the United States. And in closing, I would like to express my best wishes to King Hussein and to the people of Jordan for an auspicious month of Ramadan and a blessed 'Eid holiday. Thank you."

Following is the King's statement:

"Thank you, Mr. President. It is a great pleasure, as always, to return to the United States, a country with whom Jordan has enjoyed a special relationship for so many years."

"It is even a greater pleasure on this occasion to be meeting with you, Mr. President, a treasured friend of long standing. Your dedication to the service of your great country has been a source of inspiration, respect and admiration to me, as it is to all who know you."

"I know how devoted you are to the cause of peace. I share this devotion. I sincerely hope that through our common devotion to peace, we can, with those who are equally devoted, finally bring peace to the Middle East."

"You are the sixth president with whom I have joined to pursue that peace. I first visited this historic house in 1959 to meet

with President Eisenhower. It marked the beginning of a warm and productive relationship between our two countries; a relationship which has flourished because of our shared values, shared interests and shared goals. It is a relationship which my country and I cherish. I am heartened that the talks we are engaged in will contribute to a deepening of this relationship."

"One of our goals, which despite 22 years of efforts we have yet to achieve, is a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The principles for that settlement were established many years ago — United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. These resolutions provide for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the territories occupied in 1967 in return for the establishment of peace, arrangements for secure and recognised borders, and negotiations under appropriate auspices to implement these provisions."

"Your recent explicit reaffirmation of American support for the end of Israeli occupation in return for peace, and for the political rights of the Palestinian people, an integral part of any comprehensive settlement, is both constructive and commendable."

"As a result of the recent deci-

sion by the Palestine Liberation Organisation to accept the right of Israel to exist, to negotiate a settlement with Israel based on Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, and to renounce terrorism, a significant contribution to peace has been made. This historic decision has the overwhelming support of the Arab World. The decision by the United States to undertake substantive discussions with the PLO has further improved the prospects for peace. I hope this will prompt Israel to respond similarly to the requirements of peace, and recognise the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Peace can neither be negotiated nor achieved without PLO participation."

"Mr. President, I believe the basis for peace are already established. What is required is to implement them. The forum for a negotiated comprehensive settlement is a peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations. In my opinion, any steps taken should lead to such a conference, if our efforts to arrive at a comprehensive settlement are not to be diverted."

"All the people in the Middle East need peace and an end to this tragic and interminable conflict. The rewards of peace are

limitless and far outweigh any advantage which might be gained by any party from continued controversy and conflict. The conditions for peace exist. We all must display the vision and determination to capitalise on them."

"Mr. President, 'Allow me to say, as one of your many friends, and as one who knows well your qualities, abilities, devotion and dedication to the cause of peace, that you are the right leader, in the right office, at the right time. I know the high esteem with which you are held throughout the Middle East. You are in a unique position to help the protagonists in our area to engender the needed trust and hope, and to assist us in bringing the conflict to a just and durable conclusion."

"I can assure you that I fully support you in all your efforts in this regard."

"May God bless you, Mr. President, your dear family, and the friendly people of these great United States."

"Thank You."

After the morning meeting with Bush and a luncheon with Vice-President Dan Quayle, the King was guest of honour at a White House dinner Wednesday night. Meetings with congressional leaders also were on his schedule.

## Ministers explain results of Jordan-IMF talks

Continued from page 1

more and look for new markets abroad and that there were optimistic signs that they would achieve that goal."

He said that stimulating tourism and bringing in more visitors is another way of enhancing the national economy.

The minister revealed that the government plans to impose complete control over imports to maintain a reasonable inflow of goods, and will try to improve the quality of national products to boost their competitiveness abroad.

Once the exports are increased, the minister added, the country will have greater amounts of foreign reserves, which in turn will boost the Jordanian dinar's exchange rate.

The minister said that the government's corrective measures to be carried out in cooperation with the IMF aim at rescheduling external debts.

He said an agreement with the World Bank aims at enabling the Kingdom to increase its exports and arrive at a programme that would reduce the

effects of the government's measures on limited income groups.

Addressing the meeting, Supply Minister Fayez Al Tarawneh said that national programme to stimulate the economy would not affect the basic foodstuffs like wheat, sugar, rice and meat.

He said the government would continue to provide subsidies for these commodities and ensure the arrival here of fresh and frozen meat on a daily basis.

The government had to raise the price of milk from 720 fils per kilogramme to JD 1 recently due to a rise in price in the countries of the European Community, he explained.

Minister of Information Hani Khawash said that the meeting was to orient the journalists and writers on the outcome of the IMF-Jordanian meetings and to brief them on the country's economic policies. He said that the situation calls for all citizens to shoulder their national responsibilities.

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## Israel expects full ties with Hungary

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said on his return from a surprise trip to Budapest Wednesday that he expected Hungary would soon restore full ties severed with Israel over the 1967 war.

Shamir said the meeting, "initiated" by Hungary, focused on improving relations with the Soviet bloc and on his proposal for Palestinian elections in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"They wanted to hear about our peace initiative," Shamir told Israel Radio. "According to the course that has been set, normal relations will come in the near future." He declined to name a date.

Shamir's office kept quiet beforehand about the 24-hour visit that began Monday night, even denying rumours Sunday that it was about to take place.

The Soviet bloc, except for Romania, cut relations with Israel in 1967 when the Zionist state occupied the territories. Hungary and Israel have exchanged interest sections in recent years, but political analysts

believe Budapest would like to upgrade relations, hoping to win more favourable trade terms from Israel's closest ally, the United States.

Shamir met Hungarian Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth and Communist Party leader Karol Grosz who has close ties with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

But political scientists said if Shamir wanted to send a message to Moscow he would not go through Hungary.

Galia Golao, an Israeli Sovietologist at Hebrew University, said: "The days are gone when Shamir has to talk to the Soviets through Eastern Europe."

The Soviet Union, which also cut ties with Israel in 1967, has increased contacts with the Zionist state in the past two years and their foreign ministers have met twice recently.

An official statement quoted by Hungary's state news agency MTI said: "The Hungarian side stressed that the development of Hungarian-Israeli relations should also further the solution of the Middle East problem."

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Last 2 AWACS leave S. Arabia

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States has withdrawn the last two of its four AWACS radar-surveillance planes from Saudi Arabia thanks to the ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war, the Defence Department said Tuesday. The withdrawal of two of the huge early-warning planes along with two tanker aircraft occurred last weekend, said Keith Schneider, a Pentagon spokesman. The four planes arrived back in the United States at Tinker air force base, Oklahoma, Monday, he added. The first of the AWACS planes had been withdrawn last January, with the second following in March. The Saudis have five of the planes in their own air force, but the United States deployed additional AWACS during the height of fighting in the Gulf two years ago. The U.S. planes, in cooperation with the Saudi aircraft, flew continuous surveillance missions over the Gulf while U.S. navy ships were escorting oil tankers.

### Iran warns women of whip

NICOSIA (R) — Iranian authorities have warned women that they may be punished by up to 74 lashes if they wear make-up or see-through stockings in public. A notice by the state security council printed in Iranian newspapers this week warned that laws punishing violators of hijab (Islamic covering) would be strictly enforced from Friday. Warning against "hijablessness" of the face, body and legs, the notice listed eight types of violations. These include exposing the hair in a vulgar way, using lipstick and eye-shadow in a provocative manner, wearing clothes that accentuate body curves, and wearing see-through stockings not covered by trousers. Men are also warned that they should not wear "pauzy" clothes which are at odds with public decency.

### Papandreu defends suit against Time

ATHENS (AP) — Greece's official spokesman Tuesday accused Time magazine of distorting the truth in an interview it published with a fugitive Greek banker in which he alleges Premier Andreas Papandreu received millions of dollars in payoffs. "Justice is the only road of defence against the distortion of truth and an attempt to hush the honour of the country's premier," government spokesman Sotiris Kostopoulos said in defending Papandreu's suit against Time for defamation. The libel suit against Time by Papandreu was filed in London, his lawyer, Leonard Boudin, announced in New York Monday. Boudin said the suit was initiated in London because the Time interview with former chairman of the Bank of Crete, George Koskotas, was more damaging abroad than in the United States. He added that in England, Papandreu need only show the story written about him was defamatory and injured his reputation. Time said it was unable to obtain Papandreu's "substantial reaction" to the Koskotas interview before it was published in its March 13 issue despite repeated attempts to do so. Kostopoulos, commenting on the magazine's statement at his daily press briefing, said "There can be no dialogue between those who adopt and publicise the lies of a fugitive swindler and acclaim disinformation with a so-called journalistic responsibility."

### French hospital ship arrives at Cyprus

LARNACA, Cyprus (R) — The French naval hospital ship La Rance arrived at Larnaca Wednesday with 70 Lebanese civil war casualties to be flown to France for treatment. The injured were being taken by ambulance from the port to Larnaca's international airport. Some 70 Lebanese were ferried by motor boat to the hospital ship lying three miles off the southern Lebanese port of Sidon Tuesday as part of a French emergency relief effort for civilians injured in five weeks of unrelenting artillery bombardments. The ship late last week took aboard 14 casualties who were subsequently flown to hospitals in the Paris area for treatment.

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 73111-19

#### PROGRAMME ONE

14:30 ..... Koran  
14:55 ..... Children programmes  
16:15 ..... Cooking programme  
16:30 ..... Arabic series  
17:20 ..... Health programme  
18:00 ..... Religious period  
18:20 ..... Ramadan context  
18:35 ..... Arabic series  
19:40 ..... Programme review  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
21:30 ..... Arabic series  
21:40 ..... Religious series  
22:25 ..... Riddle  
23:40 ..... News in Arabic  
23:15 ..... Arabic play

#### PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 ..... Documentaries about plants  
19:15 ..... News in French  
19:30 ..... Strangeness  
19:40 ..... Varieties  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... Bill Cosby Show  
21:10 ..... Beauty and the Beast  
22:00 ..... News in English  
22:20 ..... Feature film: "City of Angels"

#### PRAYER TIMES

06:35 ..... (Sunrise) Fajr  
07:57 ..... Dhuha  
11:35 ..... Dhuha  
15:12 ..... Asr  
18:13 ..... Maghreb  
19:35 ..... Isha

#### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swellish Tel. 810740

Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785.  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.  
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757  
Terrence Church Tel. 623666  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541  
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543.  
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331  
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261  
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.  
Assuan International Church Tel. 683326  
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295.  
Rainbow Congregation Tel. 822605.  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815917, 821264

#### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Unstable airmass affects the area. So it will be partly cloudy and there will be a chance for light scattered showers. Winds will be southeasterly moderate to fresh sometimes. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Area	Min./Max. Temp.
Amman	14/22
Aqaba	21/28
Deserts	16/30
Jordan Valley	19/30

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 26, Aqaba 36. Humidity readings: Amman 27 per cent, Aqaba 30 per cent.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

#### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:  
Dr. Issa Haddad ..... 897007  
Dr. Mohammad Azam ..... 818911  
Dr. Khayel Halayeh ..... 793522  
Dr. Tayssir Khadr ..... 608657  
First pharmacy ..... 661912  
Ferdous pharmacy ..... 785336  
Al Asana pharmacy ..... 637055  
Nairouki pharmacy ..... 623672  
Al Salana pharmacy ..... 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy ..... 644945  
Shmeisani pharmacy ..... 637660

IRBID:  
Dr. Fawaz Al Momani ..... (—)  
Al Salana pharmacy ..... (985398)

ZARQA:  
Dr. Ziyad Salim ..... (—)  
Khalifeh pharmacy ..... 985417

### EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department ..... 661111  
Civil Defence Immediate ..... 630341  
Civil Defence Emergency ..... 699  
Rescue Police ..... 621111, 637777  
Fire Brigade ..... 62309093  
Blood Bank ..... 775121  
Highway Police ..... 843402  
Traffic Police ..... 66590991  
Public Security Department ..... 644945  
Hotel Complaints ..... 605800  
Police Complaints ..... 661176

#### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre ..... 813813/32  
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn ..... 644281/6  
Al-Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn ..... 642412/2  
Jabal Amman Maternity ..... 642362  
Malhas, J. Amman ..... 636140  
Palestine, Shmeisani ..... 664171/4  
Shmeisani Hospital ..... 669131  
University Hospital ..... 645845  
Al-Musharraf Hospital ..... 662279  
The Islamic, Abdali ..... 666227/28  
Al-Ahli, Abdali ..... 664164/6  
Italian, Al-Muhajreen ..... 773101/3  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh ..... 775911/26  
Army, Marka ..... 891611/3  
Queen Aila Hospital ..... 662240/50  
Al-Ahli, Marka ..... 674155  
ZARQA:  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital ..... (09)883373  
Zarqa Regional Hospital ..... (09)91071

#### Water and Sewerage

Complaints ..... 897467  
Amman Municipality ..... 897467  
Complaints ..... 787111  
Telephone Information (directory assistance) ..... 17  
Overseas Calls ..... 623101  
Repairs ..... 623101  
Abdali Telephone Repairs ..... 661101  
Radio Jordan ..... 773111  
Water Authority ..... 661101  
Jordan Electricity Authority ..... 815615  
Electric Power Company ..... 636381  
RJ Flight Information ..... 08-53200  
Queen Aila Int'l. Airport ..... 08-53200

#### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:15 ..... Dubai (TU)  
09:10 ..... Sanaa (LH)  
12:15 ..... Baghdad (IA)  
13:30 ..... Muscat, Bahrain (GF)  
14:30 ..... Kuwait (KU)  
15:00 ..... Bucharest (RO)  
16:25 ..... Riyadh (SV)  
18:00 ..... Amsterdam, Athens (KL)  
18:05 ..... Cairo (MS)  
18:25 ..... Frankfurt (LH)  
19:10 ..... Zurich, Larnaca (SR)  
08:05 ..... London, Cairo (BA)

#### FOR THE TRAVELLER

### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

#### ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

09:10 ..... Aqaba (RJ)  
09:10 ..... Damascus (RJ)  
09:15 ..... Jeddah (RJ)  
09:30 ..... Athens (RJ)  
09:30 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
09:45 ..... Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
09:55 ..... Doha, Bahrain (RJ)  
10:00 ..... Dhahran, Kuwait (RJ)  
10:40 ..... Calcutta (RJ)  
16:15 ..... Vienna, Miami (RJ)  
17:30 ..... Athens (RJ)  
17:30 ..... New York, Amsterdam (RJ)  
17:45 ..... London, Geneva (RJ)  
18:10 ..... Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)  
18:30 ..... Bangkok (RJ)  
19:40 ..... Tripoli (RJ)  
19:45 ..... Rome (RJ)  
08:20 ..... Baghdad (RJ)

#### DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:55 ..... Aqaba (RJ)  
08:40 ..... Tripoli (RJ)  
09:45 ..... Athens (RJ)  
11:10 ..... Bucharest (RO)  
12:10 ..... Larnaca (RJ)  
12:15 ..... Frankfurt, London (RJ)  
13:30 ..... Kuwait (RJ)  
14:30 ..... Riyadh (SV)  
15:00 ..... Amsterdam, Athens (KL)  
16:25 ..... Cairo (MS)  
18:00 ..... Frankfurt (LH)  
19:10 ..... Zurich, Larnaca (SR)  
08:05 ..... London, Cairo (BA)

#### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

09:15 ..... Tunis (TU)  
10:10 ..... Frankfurt (LH)  
13:30 ..... Baghdad (LH)

### MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Almond	550 / 450
Apple	500 / 400
Banana	350 / 300
Banana (Maltese)	300 / 250
Beans (small)	340 / 280
Broad beans	130 / 100
Cabbage	80 / 50
Carrots	170 / 120
Cauliflower	160 / 120
Cumbers	220 / 180
Dates	500 / 450
Eggplant	210 / 160
Garlic	300 / 250
Lemon	370 / 320
Lettuces (per cwt)	90 / 60
Marrow (large)	50 / 30
Marrow (small)	90 / 60
Orange (Shamouti)	370 / 320
Orange (local)	380 / 300
Onion (cwt)	180 / 140
Onion (green)	120 / 80
Pepper (hot)	250 / 200
Pepper (sweet)	340 / 300
Potatoes	220 / 200
Squash	150 / 100
Strawberry	1300 / 900
Tomatoes	550 / 450

### PROGRAMME ONE

16:00 ..... Koran  
16:15 ..... Children programme  
16:30 ..... Religious programme  
17:40 ..... Friday's prayer  
18:25 ..... Religious programme  
18:30 ..... Football  
18:35 ..... Religious series  
18:50 ..... Local programme  
19:00 ..... Arabic series  
19:10 ..... News in Arabic  
19:30 ..... Religious series  
19:45 ..... Arabic series  
20:00 ..... Programme review  
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### FOR FRIDAY

#### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 73111-19

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## U.S. increases aid to NMI

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet Wednesday endorsed an agreement with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under which the latter will increase its assistance to the National Medical Institution (NMI) to \$250,000, up from \$100,000.

The funds will be used by the NMI for health planning programmes. The Cabinet also decided that Jordan should take part in a meeting by Arab ministers of health which will be held in Geneva on June 5 before the start of the 76th meeting of the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

Jordan will be represented at the ILO meeting by Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Khaled Al Haj Hassan who will be accompanied by two officials from the Ministry of Labour.

According to a statement Wednesday, the Council of Ministers also approved an international agreement reached at an international meeting in the Swiss city of Basel last month on dumping of perilsous waste. It also empowered Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Marwan Hmoud to sign the document on behalf of Jordan. Hmoud attended the meeting in Basel along with delegates from different countries.

The statement said that the Cabinet approved of an agreement on cooperation in sports and youth affairs with Egypt for the years 1989, 1990 and 1991. The agreement aims to deepen relations between the two countries in these fields, and paves the way for an exchange of visits by officials and sports teams and youth groups from either country. The Council also approved of a similar agreement with Syria which was concluded during a visit by the minister of youth and to Damascus last month.

## Tunisian fair opens today

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Tunisian industrial fair will open in Amman Thursday and will last until the end of April, according to press reports here Wednesday. The reports said that the fair, the fourth of its kind to be held in Jordan, will display a variety of goods including foodstuffs, clothing, home appliances, electric equipment, scents, cosmetics, and traditional crafts.

According to the reports the 10-day fair will allow members of the public to buy directly in accordance with an agreement between the Tunisian and Jordanian governments.

In June Jordan plans to hold its fourth industrial fair in the Tunisian capital, displaying a variety of national products.

Ministry of Industry and Trade officials said that the Jordanian fair in Tunis will be allowed to sell \$2.5 million worth of products to the public.

Last year, Tunis held a 10-day fair at the Greater Amman Municipality building, displaying national products and selling directly to the public.

Agreement on holding fairs in Tunis and Amman was reached during talks here by a Tunisian delegation which visited Jordan in January 1989. The two sides also discussed the work of the Jordanian and Tunisian trade centres in Amman and Tunis.

## Arabs exhibit at Seville

TUNIS (Petra) — Jordan will be among 12 Arab countries which will take part in an international exhibition that will be held in the Spanish city of Seville to mark the 500-year anniversary of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus, according to Jordan's Ambassador to Tunisia Sataan Al Hassan.

Hassan said that the Arab countries' participation in the exhibition is designed as a show of the strong economic, political and cultural relations between the Arab World and Spain, and to underline the role of the Arab and Muslim culture and its influence on Spain and the European continent until the 15th century A.D.

He said that the Arab countries' participation is bound to help expose Israel's attempts to distort Arab culture, and to put an end to Zionist ambitions in the Arab World.

Hassan, who heads an Arab committee coordinating affairs related to the Arab World's participation in the coming exhibition, said that Arab countries will be represented at one great pavilion and the displayed items will reflect the Arab and Islamic heritage and relations with Spain over the centuries.

According to Hassan, the following Arab countries will take part in the exhibition: Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Iraq, Syria, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Oman, Algeria, Mauritania, and the United Arab Emirates.

## WHO team briefed on occupied lands

### Malhas: Palestinian deprived Qatanani: Hospitals stormed

AMMAN (Petra) — Health Minister Zubair Malhas told a World Health Organisation (WHO) mission now on a visit to Jordan that more than a million Palestinians are suffering from deprivation and oppression under Israeli occupation rule, and their health condition is deteriorating due to lack of proper health facilities.

Malhas said that the Israeli authorities demolished 25,000 Arab homes over the past 20 years of its occupation of Arab territories and took measures designed to aggravate the health conditions of Arab citizens under its rule.

The WHO fact-finding team which arrived here Tuesday evening on a two-day visit to Jordan heard the minister giving details about the fast deteriorating health situation in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Israel's violations of people's human rights and their actions that contradict the WHO's principles.

The minister also spoke about the condition of Arab children who, he said, are exposed to Israeli soldiers' bullets, beating, and are deprived of the right to food, vaccination and hospitalisation. Malhas also referred to the deteriorating conditions in Israeli jails where thousands of Arab citizens are being held. He gave details about Israel's inhuman practices against Arab hospitals, clinics and ambulances that provide treatment to the Palestinian people.

The WHO mission later met with the President of the Jordanian Medical Association Mamdouh Al Abbadi who said that Israel continues to ban the establishment of Arab hospitals in the occupied territories. He referred to the closure of a number of clinics and hospitals since the 1967 war.

The ongoing intifada has resulted in a great number of injured people, and there is great need at present for doctors, medical supplies and health and medical facilities in the occupied areas, Abbadi noted. He said that many Arab physicians and specialists have been detained by the Israeli authorities to stop them from providing medical assistance to the Palestinian people.

## More difficult times expected

## Price adjustment force people to adjust

By Najwa Najjar  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Following the recent price increases of several goods and services, most Jordanians say that they have been affected substantially, according to a limited survey conducted by the Jordan Times.

The survey, a random sample of people from different social classes of Jordanian men and women in the 20-60 age range, found that Jordanians expect difficult times ahead.

Those items with a price hike, which could be cut from the individual's life such as cigarettes, alcohol, soft drinks and telephone calls were cut. People have already reduced allocations for these items from their budgets.

One supermarket employee has cut down to one pack of cigarettes a week instead of his usual two to three packs. A secretary at the university of Jordan used to smoke a pack of cigarettes a day, she has now decided that one a week is enough.

A columnist said in passing that he will be hesitant to serve alcohol at home. "Guests will probably get a glass of lemonade," he said.

A newly married secretary said that due to the increase in prices of soft drinks, "I think water is the best drink." Her friend has already asked for the "O" hole in his telephone set to be removed, so that all international calls must be routed through the operator, "lessening the temptation to call outside frequently."

But, what about the commodities that Jordanians cannot afford to live without: Petrol, solar, kerosene, fuel oil, detergents, whose prices were considerably increased. Most interviewees said they would have to make up for the price difference, by eliminating other items.

A bank employee said, "buying clothes is definitely now out of the question." While a stone cutter suggested that instead of buying new clothes, "I will now have to buy clothes for my children from the second-hand stores."

A housewife said that she needed "double the amount of money" to buy the same amount of goods for her home. "Before, I used to buy items needed or not."

Now, I buy, not only the necessary items, but I check the prices to see which is the cheaper brand.

Two civil servants pointed out that trips to the hairdressers and drycleaners would lessen considerably. One civil servant said, "what scares me is that the rise in prices while wages remain constant may threaten the education system."

He explained that some families may find a tawjili level of education sufficient for their children, since university fees may "sap them of the funds necessary for survival."

A messenger said that he could not afford to buy the supplementary milk for his three-month baby and that the baby must now derive all its nutrition from its mother's milk.

A student said, "we can't buy tomatoes now because it is too expensive, so we do without it."

But, the farmer who has to pay six times more for his irrigation water said with dismay that even if he did eliminate other goods from his life, his crops need the same amount of water he used previously. "We cannot use less water because the vegetation needs a certain amount, and must receive that amount regardless of the price of water." This will eventually lead to higher prices for fruits and vegetables, commented an ambassador.

An employee of a private company was also disheartened as she noted that people in Jordan could not do without some of the essentials with a price hike. "We have to buy solar and gas. What are we supposed to do, freeze in winter or stop cooking? Or stop driving our cars? ...We can't consider such items luxury goods."

One particular daily labourer, who makes four to five dinars a day, believes the day will come when he and his family will go hungry. "How can I afford to pay rent, pay for fuel and feed my wife and two children?" he asked.

His working partner, an Egyptian, said that not only do they have to pay to survive, but why "one Jordanian dinar as television tax when I do not even have a television?"

He plans to return to Egypt "I have no other choice. I came to Jordan to save money, now the situation is the opposite."



Speaker of Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Lawzi (centre) Wednesday receives a European parliamentary delegation (Petra photo)

## Europarlamentarians denounce elections under occupation

AMMAN (Petra) — The head of a visiting European parliamentary team Wednesday denounced Israel's call for elections in the occupied West Bank as a step designed to find substitutes for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), and said that it was not a realistic move.

The group leader said that the Palestinians in the occupied territories are not against elections which they demand should be held after an Israeli withdrawal from occupied areas and that they should be held under United Nations supervision. The group members who also represent the European-Arab Cooperation Society said that they had visited the occupied West Bank and witnessed the inhuman treatment of the Palestinian people by the Israeli authorities. The Israelis are treating the Palestinians brutally and violating all forms of human rights, they added.

The European parliament supports King Hussein's endeavours to establish a just and durable peace in the region, and backs his call for an international conference which is the most acceptable formula for the achievement of peace under U.N. auspices, the group leader said at a meeting with Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi and House members. The meeting reviewed the general conditions of the Palestinian people under Israeli rule and Israel's daily atrocities and repressive measures against the Palestinian people. Addressing the visitors, Lawzi said that Israel remains the only party that continues to reject peace bids, a withdrawal of Israeli troops from Arab lands and the recognition of the Palestinian people's rights.

Lawzi told the group members who are on a current fact finding tour of the region and an investigation of the situation in the occupied territories, that Jordan has been seeking a just and durable settlement based on exchanging land for peace and the restoration of the Palestinian people's rights.

Referring to Jordan's decision to sever legal and administrative links with the West Bank, Lawzi said that the move was designed to enable the Palestinians to shoulder their own responsibilities and to enhance their identity. Jordan, he said, will continue to extend all possible support to the Palestinians to enable them to regain their national rights.

Lawzi said that Europe and the Middle East are closely linked through various interests and cultural and historical relations. He urged European parliament and governments to play a more effective role in bringing about a just and comprehensive peace. The meeting took place soon after the arrival here of the group's members from a visit to the occupied Arab lands which lasted two days.

## 1988 profit JD 1 million

## IJLTC board meets

AMMAN (Petra) — The board of directors of the Iraq-Jordan Land Transport Company (IJLTC) Wednesday met here to discuss the company's general budget and last year's final accounts, as well as plans and programmes for 1989.

In its two-day meeting the board will discuss plans to control and rationalise spending, a report on production in the first quarter of 1989, and the company's operations between Aqaba and Baghdad, as well as the company's participation in transporting Jordanian phosphates from the mines to the port city of Aqaba.

Jamil Ibrahim, the company's director general, said in a statement here that the company last year realised a JD 1 million profit, and nearly JD 667,000 profit in the first three months of 1989.

Since last February, the company began manufacturing 59 types of spare parts needed for its vehicles, a project which will be expanded and strengthened. The company which was established in 1980 has its workshops in Aqaba to provide maintenance work to the 900 vehicle fleet. The company has a capital of \$50 million shared equally between Jordan and Iraq. Its vehicle transport passengers and goods mostly between Iraq and Jordan.

The Iraqi delegation to the meeting earlier met with Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Khaled Al Haj Hassan to discuss means of promoting bilateral cooperation in transport fields.

## Cultural festival

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordanian community colleges will organise a cultural festival on April 22 in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage.

A report in the local press said that Minister of Culture Mohammad Hammouri will open the festival which will feature plays by Jordanian playwrights. The report said that the week-long festival will be held at the Royal Cultural Centre; and all sessions will take place at eight in the evening.

## Amman City Orchestra gives anniversary concert

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Amman City Orchestra, a group of Jordanian and expatriate musicians, will give a concert Thursday to mark the first anniversary of its establishment, according to an announcement. The orchestra, an affiliate of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation's National Music Conservatory (NMC), will play works by Offenbach, Verdi, Haydn, Beethoven, Rimsky-Korsakov and others at the Amman Baccalaureate School theatre.

From the very beginning, the NMC extended much support to the orchestra in the form of rehearsal facilities, instruments and music. This support was later strengthened when the orchestra formally became an NMC affiliate.

The orchestra made its debut in a pool-side concert at the Marriott Hotel on June 30, 1988. The programme, which included six works, was well-received and much appreciated by the 350-strong enthusiastic audience.

The orchestra includes five flute players, one oboist, four clarinet players, five trumpeters, two trombones, two percussion players, one pianist, nine violinists, one viola player and one double bass player. They include 14 expatriates and 17 Jordanians, of whom some are expatriates married to Jordanians. The orchestra welcomes any musicians wishing to join.

Rehearsals take place every Monday evening at 7.15 at the National Music Conservatory.

## Fadia Mouasher excels

AMMAN (J.T.) — The international division of Marriott Corporation has announced that Miss Fadia Mouasher, sales manager at the Amman Marriott Hotel has won their prestigious award for "Outstanding Sales Person — 1st Quarter, 1989."

Mr. Blinch, senior vice president, sales and marketing, Marriott Corporation was quoted as saying, "Miss Mouasher has won this award with full merit and also holds the distinction of being the first woman in the international division of Marriott's more than 200 hotels worldwide to hold this honour."

As well, Miss Mouasher is the first woman in the Arab World to reach this outstanding achievement.

Fadia Mouasher, receiving the Award Plaque for Outstanding Sales Person, 1st Quarter, 1989, from Messrs Frank Keenan, general manager and Jan Heesbeen, director of sales and marketing, of the Amman Marriott Hotel.



## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

**TRAFFIC DAY:** Balqa governorate is preparing for the celebrations of the World Traffic Day and the Arab Traffic Week, which will be held on May 14. The governorate will distribute posters, bulletins and fix road signs to aware people of the need to adhere to the traffic rules. Also in Karak, preparations are underway to mark the two occasions on May 4. Karak Governor Mohammad Hussein Al Shobaki stressed the need for putting an end to the road accidents, organising traffic and finding suitable solutions to avoid traffic jams (Petra).

**ECONOMY:** Industry and Trade Minister Hamdi Tabbaa Tuesday discussed with chairman and members of the board of the Jordan Brick Industries a number of issues of interest to the company, with the aim of helping it play an active role in supporting national economy. Tabbaa also met with Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh and reviewed with him scopes of cooperation between the industries and Amman Municipality (Petra).

**THEATRE:** Under the patronage of Minister of Culture and National Heritage Mohammad Hammouri, the Intermediate University College, in cooperation with the ministry, holds its second theatre festival for the community colleges in Jordan, during the period April 22-30. The festival, which will be entitled "towards a developed Jordanian theatre," will be held at the Royal Cultural Centre (Al Ra'i).

**HEALTH INSURANCE:** An adhoc committee in charge of drawing up a health insurance scheme for civil servants and the military, who are insured in accordance with a government insurance plan, has drafted the new regulation and will submit it to the Prime Ministry for debate and approval. The committee groups representatives for the Ministry of Health and the National Medical Insurance (Al Dustour).

**GAS:** The recent increase in the prices of gas is not attributable to a world price rise, but to contribute towards reducing the government budget, according to a responsible source in the Natural Resources Authority. The source added that the gas found recently at Al Rishah area needs treatment before it becomes suitable for household consumption (Al Dustour).

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

**EXHIBITIONS**

- ★ An art exhibition displaying paintings by children at the Housing Bank Complex.
- ★ An art exhibition by French artist Jean-Francois Noble at Haya Arts Centre.
- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian and Iraqi artists at the Royal Cultural Centre.

**RAMADAN SOUQ**

- ★ Ramadan open-air market, which includes foodstuffs, clothes, home appliances and children's toys at Mahatta, eastern Amman.
- ★ International Ramadan Souq, in which 14 Arab and Islamic countries are taking part, at the International Auto Centre, Queen Alia International Airport Highway.

**FILMS**

- ★ Two Iraqi films shown as part of the Iraqi Cultural Week: The first entitled "An Iraqi Wedding," Thursday, and the other entitled "46," Friday, at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ A feature film entitled "Rampelstein" at the American Centre — 4:40 p.m.



### Pool Club

## SUMMER 1989

Now is the time to apply for your pool membership at our swimming pool.

the ideal place to enjoy the hot sizzling summer and the cool water.

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HOTEL JORDAN INTER-CONTINENT

### ANGLICAN CHURCH IN AMMAN

#### HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES 1989

Palm Sunday, 23.4.89	8 a.m. Holy Communion 6 p.m. Family Communion, with blessing of Palms.
Maundy Thursday, 27.4.89	5.30 p.m. Commemoration of the Last Supper, with washing of the feet.
Good Friday, 28.4.89	6.30 p.m. Joint Arabic/English Service.
Holy Saturday, 29.4.89	8.00 p.m. Easter Vigil and Renewal of Baptismal Vows.
Easter Day, 30.4.89	6.00 a.m. Easter Day Sunrise Service at Mount Nebo 6.00 p.m. Easter Evening Service

Clergy: The Revd. William Taylor 628543  
The Revd. Vell Jarvinen 822605

A VERY HAPPY AND BLESSED EASTER TO ALL — "CHRIST IS RISEN!"







## EN BREF

### La loi électorale modifiée

La chambre des députés de Jordanie comptera dorénavant 72 sièges, en vertu de l'amendement à la loi électorale approuvé samedi dernier par décret royal et rendu nécessaire par la rupture des liens administratifs et juridiques avec la Cisjordanie, le 30 juillet 1988. Le nouveau texte supprime également les 11 sièges de députés réservés aux 11 camps de réfugiés palestiniens du Royaume, désormais intégrés aux circonscriptions électorales. Bien qu'elle abrite près de la moitié de la population totale du pays, la ville d'Amman ne sera représentée que par 8 élus, soit le double seulement de Salt. Le décret du roi Hussein modifie la loi de 1986, jamais entrée en vigueur, qui prévoyait 142 députés pour les deux rives. L'amendement ne fixe aucune date pour de nouvelles élections parlementaires.

### Don de 5 millions de dollars à Amman

La Communauté économique européenne (CEE) a offert mardi 4 millions de dollars (près de 5 millions de dollars) à la Jordanie pour un projet d'étude de ses ressources et de ses capacités agricoles. L'accord a été signé à Amman par le ministre jordanien du Plan, M. Taher Khaman, et le représentant de la CEE dans le royaume hachémite, M. Christian Falkowski.

### La "Palestine" à l'heure d'été

Les dirigeants de l'intifada ont décrété samedi soir l'entrée en vigueur de l'heure d'été dans les territoires occupés. Soit deux semaines plus tôt qu'en Israël, où cette mesure ne sera appliquée que le 30 avril. Dans un communiqué, la "direction unifiée" du soulèvement a appelé les "habitants de l'Etat de Palestine" de Gaza et de Cisjordanie à avancer leurs pendules d'une heure (soit temps universel plus trois).

### Solidarité légalisée

Le syndicat polonais Solidarité a été légalisé lundi par le tribunal régional de Varsovie, en présence de centaines de militants et de sympathisants du mouvement, dirigé par Lech Walesa. Créé en 1980, Solidarité avait été interdit lors de la proclamation de l'état de siège, le 13 décembre 1981, par le général Jaruzelski. La régularisation du syndicat avait été décidée au cours de la "table ronde" organisée du 6 février au 5 avril entre le pouvoir et l'opposition.

### Projet de pont sur le golfe d'Aqaba

L'arabisation du pont routier entre l'Egypte et l'Arabie Saoudite enjambant le golfe d'Aqaba refait surface. Le projet va en effet être relancé après la visite au Caire du roi Fahd. Selon une première étude effectuée en 1982 par une commission technique égyptienne, l'ouvrage relierait le sud du Sinaï à la côte saoudienne, en passant par l'île de Tiran. Le tronçon le plus important serait constitué d'un pont suspendu d'environ 7 kilomètres de long.

### Nouveau parti en Algérie

Le "Parti national algérien" (PNA) a annoncé sa création dimanche à Alger. Cette association à caractère politique s'est présentée comme étant de tendance libérale. Selon son porte-parole, le PNA s'est d'ores et déjà doté d'un "programme complet", capable de répondre aux problèmes de l'Algérie.

### Un gâteau d'anniversaire de 1250 kilos

Le roi Mswati III du Swaziland a fêté, hier, ses 21 ans autour d'un gâteau d'anniversaire de 1250 kilos. Un gâteau confectionné en deux semaines par une pâtisserie sud-africaine et composé de 15 morceaux de un mètre de long sur 50 centimètres de haut. Tout juste suffisant pour nourrir les quelques 4000 invités...

### Un Van Gogh Volé aux Pays-Bas réapparaît

Quatre mois après le plus important vol de tableaux jamais commis aux Pays-Bas, une des trois toiles de Vincent Van Gogh, dérobée le 12 décembre au musée national Kroeller Muller, a été retrouvée dans une voiture en stationnement devant le logement du directeur du musée Kroeller Muller. Il s'agit de la toile baptisée "Tisserand avec métier à tisser". Les deux autres toiles, "Mangeurs de pommes de terre" et les "Toumeuses", restent introuvables. L'ensemble des toiles avait été estimé, à l'époque du vol, entre 100 et 125 millions de dollars.

## Le roi Hussein aux USA

### Une visite difficile

Le roi Hussein, arrivé lundi dernier à Washington, devait s'entretenir, hier, avec le président américain George Bush, qui a récemment apporté son soutien aux propositions israéliennes d'élections dans les territoires occupés. Les entretiens officiels doivent se poursuivre aujourd'hui entre le souverain hachémite et le secrétaire d'Etat américain James Baker.

Dernier grand rendez-vous de la diplomatie américaine avec les principaux dirigeants du Proche-Orient, la visite du roi de Jordanie à Washington devait permettre aux pays arabes modérés de relancer leur offensive en faveur d'une conférence internationale de paix. Une relance difficile, après le passage du premier ministre israélien, qui a vu les Etats-Unis soutenir ses propositions d'élections dans les territoires occupés, malgré le refus de l'OLP.

Le roi Hussein, conscient que

la Maison Blanche penche toujours du côté israélien, ne pouvait que rappeler au président américain l'opposition unanime de la population palestinienne de Cisjordanie et de Gaza à ce qu'elle considère comme une "tentative de mise sur la touche" de Yasser Arafat. Le souverain jordanien aura également fait valoir à George Bush qu'une réelle unité prévalait désormais entre les pays arabes modérés pour l'ouverture de négociations directes. Le dialogue, entamé entre Washington et l'OLP, aura vraisemblablement été évoqué par les deux chefs d'Etat.

François Mitterrand et le roi Hussein se sont entretenus à Paris lundi. Le tête-à-tête a surtout porté sur la guerre du Liban. Saluant la mission humanitaire française entreprise dans ce pays, le souverain jordanien a notamment souligné la "grande responsabilité du monde arabe pour agir et mettre fin à cette folie" (D'après agences).

## Evacuation de blessés libanais

### La France poursuit sa mission

Soixante dix huit Libanais, blessés dans les combats qui continuent de faire rage à Beyrouth, ont été évacués hier vers Chypre par le navire-hôpital, "La Rance". Ils devaient être transportés dans la journée à bord d'un avion militaire, avant de gagner la France.

"La Rance" a accosté hier tôt dans la matinée dans le port de Larnaca, à Chypre, avec à son bord 73 blessés libanais chrétiens mais aussi musulmans. Le navire-hôpital français avait embarqué 14 blessés chrétiens dans le port de Jounieh, au nord de Beyrouth. Les autres, à majorité musulmane, venaient du port de Sidon, à 40 kilomètres au sud de la capitale libanaise. Tous ont rallié "La Rance" à bord de plusieurs embarcations dotées de canons et de mitrailleuses, opérant une rotation entre la côte et le bâtiment.

Ces victimes de la guerre entre les gouvernements chrétien et musulman pro-syrien, devaient ensuite rejoindre la France, à l'instar de douze autres blessés, arrivés à Paris dimanche soir. La première évacuation organisée dans le cadre de la mission humanitaire française, baptisée "Académie", avait commencé dans la nuit de vendredi sous la menace des obus syriens. Entourée de la plus grande discrétion, l'opération était supervisée par le secrétaire d'Etat français à l'action humanitaire, Bernard Kouchner. Elle s'est poursuivie dimanche malgré de violents bombardements qui ont fait au moins 36

morts dont l'ambassadeur d'Espagne au Liban, ainsi que 181 blessés. Bombardements qui intervenaient peu après les déclarations du chef du gouvernement à majorité musulmane, Salim Hoes, relevant notamment avec "surprise" que les chrétiens avaient été les premiers à bénéficier de soins. La tension est retombée, dès lundi, avec "l'accord total" intervenu entre Bernard Kouchner et Salim Hoes, au terme d'entretiens, qui selon les deux parties ont levé toute ambiguïté sur les intentions françaises.

Pour les Beyrouthins, la situation s'est encore aggravée, après l'arrêt de la centrale électrique de Zouk, au nord de la capitale. Faute de carburant, le courant a été coupé pour 80% des Libanais. Ces nouveaux déboires, alors que les combats se poursuivent, inquiètent de plus en plus la communauté internationale. Lundi, François Mitterrand s'est notamment entretenu au téléphone avec les présidents égyptien, américain et soviétique, ainsi qu'avec le chef du gouvernement espagnol.

Dans le même temps, deux personnalités françaises, MM. Cheysson et Pasqua ont demandé au gouvernement de saisir le conseil de sécurité de l'ONU. Le président du comité arabe de bons offices pour le Liban, Cheikh Sabah, a pour sa part annoncé mardi qu'une réunion extraordinaire, d'un conseil ministériel de la Ligue arabe se tiendrait demain à Tunis (D'après agences).

## Jordanie-FMI

### L'ère de l'austérité

Haussé des prix du carburant, du gaz, des cigarettes, du téléphone, du lait, de la margarine, mais aussi des taxes sur les voitures, l'électricité et les bois... L'accord-programme conclu vendredi dernier entre le Fonds monétaire international (FMI) et le gouvernement jordanien se traduit depuis quelques jours par une série de mesures draconiennes d'austérité.

La Jordanie est entrée dimanche dans l'ère de la rigueur. Au terme de deux semaines de négociations entre le FMI et le gouvernement, Amman a décidé d'adopter un programme économique et financier pour les cinq prochaines années, afin d'obtenir le réajustement de sa dette extérieure estimée entre 6 et 7 milliards de dollars.

Dans la lettre d'intention qu'il

vient d'adresser au FMI, la Jordanie s'engage notamment à ramener son déficit budgétaire à 7% du produit national brut (1), avant la fin de 1993, et à renoncer progressivement à la planche à billets. Le royaume hachémite devra également combler le besoin de financement de sa balance des paiements, qui avoisine le milliard de dollars pour 1989.

Le FMI a d'ores et déjà exigé une économie immédiate de près de 110 millions de dollars, objectif qu'Amman estime pouvoir atteindre grâce aux augmentations de prix (2). Le gouvernement espère par ailleurs réduire l'inflation à 10% dès cette année, puis à 7% (3), par le planfonement de la croissance de la masse monétaire et par l'encadrement du crédit.

Enfin, pour éponger le besoin de la balance des paiements, la

Jordanie va encore diminuer ses importations. Son financement sera partiellement couvert par le crédit standby de 275 millions de dollars, octroyé par le FMI et par le réajustement de la dette civile et militaire via le Club de Paris.

Dans les milieux économiques jordaniens, on estime que le cours du dinar restera stable pour le moment, après une dépréciation d'environ 45% en un an. Les spécialistes s'attendent toutefois à de futurs ajustements, destinés à compenser l'augmentation inévitable des coûts de production après la majoration des prix de l'énergie. (d'après agences)

- (1) Il est actuellement de 16%.
- (2) Ces mesures devraient rapporter quelque 85 millions de dollars à l'Etat.
- (3) L'inflation a atteint 15% en 1988.

### Ont déjà augmenté:

Le carburant. L'essence ordinaire est passée de 180 fils par litre à 220 fils; le super, de 210 fils à 270 fils; le mazout et le kérozène, de 65 à 75 fils. Ces hausses, ainsi que celles des taxes sur les voitures (voir ci-contre) devraient entraîner une majoration des prix des taxis. Cette augmentation était discutée mardi par l'association professionnelle des compagnies de taxis au ministère des Transports.

Le gaz. La bouteille de 12 litres coûte désormais 2 dinars (+ 200 fils).

Le téléphone. Création d'une taxe de 10% sur le montant des factures. Augmentation de 10% l'équivalent de l'abonnement annuel et des frais de pose d'une ligne.

L'électricité. Création d'une taxe spéciale d'un dinar sur les factures et généralisation de la taxe annuelle de 12 dinars, destinée à la télévision.

Les cigarettes. Locales et étrangères augmentent respectivement de 26 et 27%.

Les boissons. La taxe à la consommation des alcools produits en Jordanie augmente de 40%. Celle des alcools importés de 50%. Ces hausses, qui touchent les producteurs et les distributeurs, se répercuteront sur les prix au détail. Les boissons gazeuses ont, elles, augmenté de 17%, passant de 110 fils le litre à 130 fils; l'eau minérale, de 110 à 135 fils; les jus de fruits, de 115 à 135 fils.

Les laitsages. Le litre de lait passe de 720 fils à un dinar (+40%); la boîte de deux kilos de margarine, de 1,03 à 1,25 dinar.

## Glissement de terrain près d'Ajloun

### Le risque demeure

Le glissement de terrain, sans précédent depuis la fin des années soixante, qui s'est produit du 4 au 6 avril dernier près d'Ajloun, continue d'inquiéter les spécialistes jordaniens. Selon les géologues, le pan entier de montagne, saturé d'eau, qui s'est déplacé sur une surface de quatre kilomètres carrés, fait prévoir de "nouveaux tassements de grande envergure".

"Il faut agir, et vite". Sans se vouloir alarmiste, Azzam Sabbah avoue qu'il reste néanmoins préoccupé par le glissement de terrain qui a affecté, au début du mois, Djebel Dahous à une trentaine de kilomètres au sud d'A-

joun. Selon le directeur du département de géologie du Service des ressources naturelles (NRA), de nouveaux mouvements de grande amplitude peuvent en effet se produire à tout moment.

"D'énormes quantités d'eau se sont accumulées au pied de la pente: il faut les évacuer d'urgence et construire des murs de pierres pour retenir la terre", explique Azzam Sabbah. Les services de la Défense civile d'Irbid, dont dépend la zone sinistrée, indiquent mardi qu'aucune mesure de la sorte n'avait encore été prise mais que le site était sous surveillance permanente.

Le glissement de terrain, qui a

duré trois jours, n'a fait aucune victime. "Les habitants de la région savaient qu'il existait un risque et nous informaient sur les mouvements de plusieurs failles que nous avions repérées. Il y a six ans", précise Fahid Masri, ingénieur du NRA. Trois habitations, dont un hangar agricole ont été ensevelies par la lente avalanche de boue et de rochers, et vingt hectares d'oliviers, de bananiers et de cultures maraichères ont été détruits.

Selon les géologues jordaniens, les canaux creusés à flanc de colline par les agriculteurs de Djebel Dahous ont contribué à l'origine du phénomène. (A.R.)

## 95 morts à Sheffield

### Football-massacre

Liverpool-Nottingham Forest: quatre vingt quinze morts et plus de deux cents blessés. L'horreur en guise de résultat. Samedi dernier au stade de Hillsborough à Sheffield, le football a une nouvelle fois rimé avec massacre, ravivant le souvenir du Heysel où 39 spectateurs du match Liverpool-Juventus de Turin avaient trouvé la mort. Cette fois pourtant, l'horreur n'est pas due aux bagarres qu'affectionne une certaine catégorie de supporters, mais à la folie collective d'un moins deux mille fans frustrés de ne pouvoir assister à la demi-finale de la coupe d'Angleterre entre deux équipes vedettes. Devant la pression de la foule, la police a cédé et ouvert l'une des grilles du stade. La suite a été atroce. Dans les gradins archi-combles, des centaines de personnes, dont de nombreux adolescents, ont été écrasées, étouffées et piétinées contre les grilles du terrain. Mardi, 170 blessés étaient encore hospitalisés, dont 19 dans des unités de soins intensifs. Le gouvernement britannique a ouvert une enquête et décidé de verser un demi-million de livres aux familles des victimes.

## FIGURE

### La mort de Charles Vanel

### Un monstre du cinéma

1912-1988. Entre ces deux dates s'étend la carrière phénoménale de Charles Vanel, décédé samedi dernier en France, à l'âge de 96 ans. De "Jim Crow", tourné dans les années dix sous la direction de Robert Péguy, aux "Saisons du plaisir", réalisé l'an dernier par Jean-Pierre Mocky, Charles Vanel aura joué du muet au cinémascope dans quelques trois cents films. Avec les meilleurs metteurs en scène: Feyder, Clouzot, Carné, Bunuel ou encore Hitchcock.

Breton au visage buriné, flanqué de sa pipe légendaire, il évoquait toujours sa longue aventure au service du septième art avec modestie: "Etre acteur, dit-il, c'est être artisan". Policier ou gangster, jeune premier ou vieillard, ouvrier ou grand bourgeois, il a incarné les rôles les plus différents avec autant de bonheur.

Après une brève éclipse au lendemain de la guerre, il était devenu l'un des acteurs incontournables du cinéma français. Grâce, notamment, à trois longs métrages d'Henri-Georges Clouzot: "Le Salaire de la peur" (1953), avec Yves Montand, qui lui valut le prix d'interprétation masculine au festival de Cannes; "Les Diaboliques" (1954) et "La



Vérité" (1961), avec Brigitte Bardot.

Alfred Hitchcock l'avait lancé à la poursuite de Cary Grant dans "La Main au collet" (1954), avant que Luis Buñuel ne l'engage pour "La Mort en ce jardin" (1956). Il s'imposait encore dans "L'Amour des Ferveurs" de Melville (1962), "La plus belle Soirée de ma vie" d'Ettore Scola (1972) et "Cadavres exquis" de Francesco Rosi (1975).

Fait commandeur de la Légion d'Honneur en 1985, Charles Vanel avait un souhait: "terminer sur un bon rôle, dans un bon film".

## SORTIR

### Amphithéâtre du folklore



Amman, Poughes, Salt, Ramtha... Le folklore des villes jordaniennes s'est emparé depuis hier de l'amphithéâtre romain de la Ville Basse. Jusqu'au trois mai, onze groupes régionaux, dont l'ensemble de cuivre de l'armée nationale, vont se succéder chaque dimanche et mercredi soirs sur la scène du théâtre antique. Au programme: les chants et danses traditionnels du royaume hachémite. Selon le ministère jordanien de la Culture, ce festival s'inscrit dans le cadre d'une campagne de promotion des différents aspects de l'héritage artistique du pays. Il intervient après une série de manifestations consacrées au théâtre et à la poésie arabes par le Centre culturel royal d'Amman. D'autres concerts seront organisés dans le courant de l'année, pour permettre au plus grand nombre possible de groupes artistiques de se produire devant un public.

Concerts tous les mercredis et dimanches soirs, après l'iftar, jusqu'au 3 mai. Entrée libre.

## A L'AFFICHE

### CINEMA

#### Ros et la grande ville

Film allemand pour les enfants (1980). Rosi, 12 ans, quitte la Bavière et s'installe à Berlin avec sa famille. Ce voyage bouleverse sa vie.

Institut Goethe, samedi 22 avril à 16h00 (en allemand).

#### In the heat of the night

De Norman Jewison, avec Sidney Poitier, Rod Steiger et Warren Oates (1967). Un riche industriel d'une petite ville du Mississippi est assassiné. La population soupçonne d'abord un noir, puis découvre qu'il est policier, lui demandant d'éclaircir le crime.

Centre américain, dimanche 23 avril à 16h00 (en anglais).

#### Une si jolie petite plage

D'Yves Allégret, avec Gérard Philipe (1949). Un orphelin retourne à l'école où il fut employé et souvent maltraité par le patron.

CCF, jeudi 24 avril à 20h30 (en français, sous-titré en arabe).

#### Gribouille

De Marc Allégret, avec Raimu et Michèle Morgan (1937). Un brave homme prend en affection une jeune femme accusée d'un meurtre.

CCF, mercredi 26 avril à 20h30 (en français, sous-titré en arabe).

#### Ciné-club

En raison du Ramadan, le ciné-

### EXPOSITION

#### Peinture à la main

Jean-François Noble, artiste français, expose ses toiles peintes à la main et anime un atelier en plein air pour les enfants de 6 à 11 ans.

Jardins du Hays Arts Centre, tous les jours jusqu'au 27 avril inclus, de 20h30 à 23h00.

### TELEVISION

"Colargol", dessin animé pour les enfants (JTV, vendredi 21 avril à 17h15). "Le retour à Malakoff", avec Frédéric Pierrot et Jean-François, dans le cadre de la série "Haute tension", proposée par Pierre Grimblat.

Un jeune homme, injustement accusé de meurtre, revient au village après avoir purgé une longue peine de prison. Il décide de découvrir le vrai coupable et se heurte au mépris des habitants... UTV, vendredi 21 avril à 17h30.

## Marché national saturé, débouchés insuffisants dans le monde arabe...

### Le vêtement jordanien file vers l'Ouest



Amman Moda: Une usine de 4.000 mètres carrés, qui exporte 84% de sa production vers l'Amérique du Nord.

chemise unie pour homme dans le royaume hachémite. Malgré sa position dominante, la société, dirigée depuis deux ans et demi par Jad Makda, a décidé de s'aventurer sur les marchés nord-américain et européen. Dès l'arrivée du nouveau et ambitieux Pdg, JCC a totalement renoué l'outillage de ses usines. "Nous avons acheté des machines à coudre plus performantes, changé nos appareils de découpe pour répondre aux exigences de ces pays", remarque Jad Makda.

#### Changement radical

Fidèle à sa réputation d'indépendance, l'entreprise familiale a choisi la voie la plus risquée: "Nous voulons vendre nos propres produits", affirme le Pdg de JCC. Les normes, imposées par les importateurs occidentaux ont considérablement modifié les habitudes de travail de la société, la installée en Jordanie depuis 1949. "Pour être compétitifs, nous devons être capables de répondre très rapidement à des commandes éclair", poursuit-il. Ses deux usines, qui employaient aujourd'hui 150 salariés, ont ainsi augmenté leur capacité de production jusqu'à mille cinq cents unités par jour. "Il a également fallu renforcer nos stocks de tissus, mis sur de nouvelles couleurs..." Et importer de plus en plus de

coton. "Ici, les gens préfèrent les chemises synthétiques, plus faciles à repasser. Aux Etats-Unis et en Europe, il nous est impossible de les vendre", ajoute M. Makda. Malgré les problèmes d'approvisionnement, et notamment le transit obligé des fournitures par le port d'Aqaba. "Le dédouanement et le transport nous font perdre un temps précieux et nous coûtent près de 6% du prix de revient", soutient-il. En dépit de ces difficultés, JCC estime que son avenir passe par l'ouest. Il est vrai que les chiffres sont encourageants: pour sa première incursion en Occident, l'entreprise a exporté l'an dernier 40% de sa production vers les Etats-Unis, le Canada, la Grande Bretagne et la Suède. "Il s'agit pour nous de tester ces nouveaux débouchés", souligne le Pdg de JCC. En 1989, nous espérons dépasser les 50%, en nous lançant dans la chemise fantaisie."

#### "Des exécutants"

On est encore loin des 84% atteints en 1988 par Amman Moda (AM). Premier fabricant de vêtements féminins et pour enfants, avec une capacité de dix mille unités par jour, AM s'est résolument orienté vers la création en 1986 vers les marchés nord-américains. "Nous avons

profité du passage en Jordanie d'un importateur qui travaillait avec l'Egypte, se souvient Mohammed Wasfi Abdallah, l'un des trois propriétaires de l'entreprise. Il a passé une première commande avec nous. C'est comme ça que nous avons commencé."

La suite se passe de commentaires: en trois ans, la part des exportations a augmenté de 35 à plus de 80% de la production. Dans le même temps, le nombre des salariés de l'usine, installée à Moukabelein, a presque triplé, passant de 200 à 560. Sa réussite, Amman Moda la doit avant tout aux accords passés avec les principales marques et chaînes de magasins américaines. "Nous travaillons avec une dizaine de sociétés, dont Calvin Klein, Bon Jour, Crasy Horse, CCG International ou encore Kim Heart, qui possède deux mille trois cents boutiques aux Etats-Unis", explique M. Wasfi.

Contrairement à la Jordan clothing company, AM a préféré adopter les modèles des importateurs. "Nous sommes des exécutants. Nos clients fournissent les patrons des vêtements, choisissent les couleurs...", poursuit son co-directeur. Les quelques stylistes de l'entreprise travaillent exclusivement pour le marché jordanien, sous les marques Ahlan et Amman Moda.

Comme ses concurrents, Mohammed Wasfi Abdallah envisage cette année de prendre pied en Europe. Prudemment. "Des contacts ont été pris avec des importateurs de petite et moyenne tailles en Espagne, et nous commencerons peut-être à exporter dans quelques mois", annonce-t-il.

AM refuse néanmoins la confection en franchise, telle que la pratique à Salt une autre société jordanienne, sous la marque Lee Cooper. Pour ses propriétaires, le meilleur moyen d'exporter reste la commande ponctuelle de clients étrangers. "Tant que les Etats-Unis et les autres pays occidentaux ne nous imposeront pas de quotas, comme c'est le cas avec Taiwan ou Hong Kong, nous continuerons à nous développer".

Mohammed Wasfi n'oublie pas la Jordanie pour autant. "Avec la réduction des importations et les diverses mesures visant à protéger le marché intérieur, la production locale va pouvoir reprendre, estime-t-il. Nos bénéfices s'en trouveront considérablement accrus, étant donné qu'à l'exportation, les prix sont multipliés par trois entre nous et le consommateur". La Jordan clothing company, quant à elle, ne peut guère faire marche arrière. "Nos derniers modèles risquent de ne pas se vendre ici. C'est pourquoi notre principal objectif demeure la mise en place de réseaux de distribution dans les pays où nous importons, précise Jad Makda. Réduire le nombre des intermédiaires constitue leur seul moyen d'augmenter nos profits".

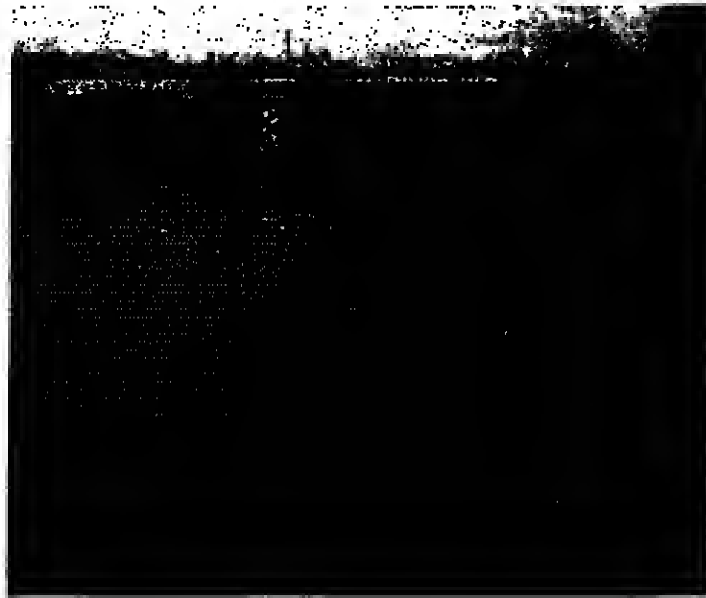
Le co-directeur de AM reconnaît cependant que les marchés étrangers constitueront toujours plus de 50% de ses débouchés. "Mais il y a une chance à saisir pour notre pays, soutient-il. Le secteur du textile représente l'avenir industriel du royaume, sur lequel pourrait s'appuyer un réel développement économique".

Alain Renon avec François Ducronx.





Many of Sengki's residents are squatters.



Sengki was built on the banks of the Chao Phaya River



Manangkasil's new commercial section.

## Clearing slums in Thailand

By Lois Jensen

A VISIT to Sengki is a respite from the frenetic pace of Bangkok. Life slows down here. Sengki is a community of 200 families, built around a muddy road that leads to the river. It is filled with sounds of barking dogs, crying babies and TV melodramas drifting out from airy, makeshift wood homes. Despite its squalid appearance, it conveys a sense of "neighbourhood," a quality fast disappearing from many of the world's largest cities.

Like thousands of other slum dwellers in Thailand's capital city, the people Sengki faced eviction as downtown Bangkok began to encroach and real estate developers sought the land they lived on. But so far they have escaped the bulldozer, thanks to an unusual experiment in inner city land-use that the Thai call "land-sharing." The plan respects the interests of residents on the margins of Bangkok society, while permitting the city's inevitable modernisation.

The pressure to move began to mount almost as soon as the smoke had cleared from a fire that swept the neighbourhood a decade ago.

Sa-ngud Saunrakaw, now 77, remembers clearly the day in 1978 when he returned to Sengki

to find nothing left of his wooden, two-storey home. Gone too were the money and gold pieces that he had saved over the years.

The 1978 fire destroyed almost everything the residents of Sengki owned. And because their homes no longer existed, their leases on house sites were cancelled by the landowner. When they rebuilt, they were considered squatters.

Sengki is hardly unique of Bangkok's more than 1,000 slum communities, over 200 were threatened with eviction last year alone. Conventional strategies for dealing with the problem, such as rehousing residents in alternative locations, were abandoned by the government as too costly. Nor is relocation acceptable to most slum dwellers. Some upgrading of low-income areas, such as providing waste collection and clean water, has been initiated by the government. But for years, the larger issue of land tenure remained unresolved, leaving many city dwellers without long-term security.

Land-sharing is an arrangement that divides a slum into two parts. "One is for the landowner to develop to the best possible commercial advantage. The other is leased or sold to residents, who organise themselves into a cooperative to build new homes. For residents it means smaller, but secure, plots of land. For the

landowner it means immediate financial gain rather than prolonged, often costly, confrontations with tenants.

"The concept is simple," says Somsook Boonyabancha, an official with the National Housing Authority assigned to the Sengki project. "We have a conflict, and to resolve it we share, instead of saying 'We win, you lose.' It is appropriate in a compromising society like Thailand."

In Sengki, land-sharing has not come easily. Conditions deteriorated rapidly after the fire. Although many residents lost their leases, they stayed on and built temporary homes, along with a large number of new squatters. Land-sharing was first proposed in 1980 after the landowner — the King's Property Bureau — refused to renew anyone's leases. The National Housing Authority stepped in to play an intermediary role.

Funding came from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), which channelled \$69,000 to the Sengki project through the U.N. Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat). Both organisations saw land-sharing as a model for future slum clearing.

A commercial loan was obtained by the Sengki Housing Cooperative for a down payment on part of the land, which in turn

was sold to residents at less than half of its market value. In exchange, the residents agreed that the King's Property Bureau should sell or develop the remaining land for commercial use.

Plots have now been set aside for 132 homes. Various models have been proposed to residents. But owners can choose to build whatever structure they like — and in their own time. Many continue to live in temporary shelters, choosing to build only after paying off their loans for the land.

While the concept of land-sharing may appear simple, the reality is something else. "When a community is fighting a landlord," Boonyabancha says, "there is a feeling of solidarity because the authority is outside the group. But once residents are in charge of dividing the land among themselves there are problems. The enemies are now inside the community itself."

Saunrakaw is one of many old-timers who has had trouble accepting the land-sharing agreement. Having occupied a plot for decades, he refuses to believe that anyone could force him out. Moreover, he feels that his new plot is too small for him and his wife and the two other families that live with them. He is upset that squatters, who moved into

the area after the 1978 fire, should also be allowed to settle in Sengki. But he has decided he will go along with the rest of the group.

Sceptics such as Saunrakaw began to change their minds when they visited Manangkasil, one of five other land-sharing projects in Bangkok which are in various stages of completion. In Manangkasil, the community worked without intermediaries in negotiating an agreement with the landlord. Attractive, two-storey row houses along one boundary of the property attest to the project's success. Just yards away, in an area that is still in dispute, are housing conditions that are usually associated with city slums.

One of the driving forces in Manangkasil's decision to resist eviction is Tang Ka-Seng, an animated Chinese woman who has lived in the neighbourhood all her life. She even camped out overnight in front of the Prime Minister's home to bring the residents' plight to the government's attention. She now works as the loan officer for the community's credit union.

"It's tough work," she explains. Each day she makes the neighbourhood rounds. If a family owes 100 baht (\$3.92) and doesn't have it, she will ask for 50 baht or less. She tries to be

flexible, but encourages them to pay something.

"In a sense, land-sharing is 'formalising' an informal situation," explains Boonyabancha. "And this can be troubling in cases where communities have always operated on a very informal basis. What we try to do is to encourage peoples' involvement through an election process — and then turn over as much of the administration as possible to the community itself."

"You spend a lot of time in the beginning helping organise residents — say two years — but from then on the community will operate by itself. We want to prove that land-sharing is possible — but it takes time."

In many cases, it also takes outside help. In Sengki, it was a local non-governmental organisation (NGO) called the Community Relations Group that helped forge a consensus on how to proceed in the project's early stages. "In eviction cases, the community cannot attack the landowner outright because they'll lose," says Boonyabancha. "NGOs are particularly important because they can work in close contact with the government or real estate developers. But they try and keep the power structures separate from each other — and find space in between."

## Teaching the computer to read Chinese

COMPUTER expert Peter Casiers says he was amazed when his computer was able to distinguish between an "i" and a "j".

"Can you?" he asks, promptly answering: "Only in context."

His fellow-research scientists at the department of metrology and automatic control technology at the Technical University in Berlin nod in agreement.

That isn't the only party trick their computer can perform. It is the only one in Europe that can read Chinese characters — 3,755 of them.

Since 1986 he and his colleagues, computer specialists and Sinologists, have set themselves an ambitious target: to "teach" their computer to read Chinese characters semi-automatically.

It does so by means of an electronic scanner. Similar devices exist in Japan. Research projects are under way at Chinese universities. But the Berlin computer is the most accurate yet developed.

"In Taiwan and China," says Sinologist Richard Suchenwirth, "over 500 processes have been devised in the past 10 years by which to computerise Chinese characters."

Keying them into a computer is only part of the problem; reading them — and understanding the combination of pictograms and syllabic characters — is much more problematic.

Depending on the dictionary used, Chinese script consists of a nucleus of between 40,000 and 60,000 characters.

It is no small consolation, as Suchenwirth puts it, that the 3,755 characters the Berlin computer has been taught to read make up roughly 98 per cent of the characters actually used.

Each character incorporates a graphic factor derived, over the millennia, from pictorial representation.

All characters that have anything to do with medicine, for instance, are topped with a stylised bunch of medicinal herbs.

"But we had to teach the computer an entirely different reading method," Suchenwirth says. Each printed character is first

read in four directions and classified by the quantity and frequency of black, or printer's ink, encountered.

Once the computer has registered these data the character as scanned on paper by what amounts to a video camera can then be reproduced on the monitor screen.

"Our original objective," says project director Imfried Hartmann, "was to achieve 95-per cent reading accuracy. We have now reached 98 per cent."

To reach this degree of accuracy the scanner and the computer to which it is attached had to memorise Chinese characters — just like students do.

When the project began, the Berlin research scientists keyed about 6,000 Chinese characters into the computer, which is one day intended to make life easier for librarians.

Programmes that combine text input and scanner systems, i.e. both reading and writing, might sell like hot cakes in the Far East. But the Berlin project is nowhere near that stage yet.

"We still need an entire day to read a single page of a Chinese magazine," Hartmann says. By the year after next, when the DM120,000 project is scheduled for completion, the printer should be able to print out a page a minute.

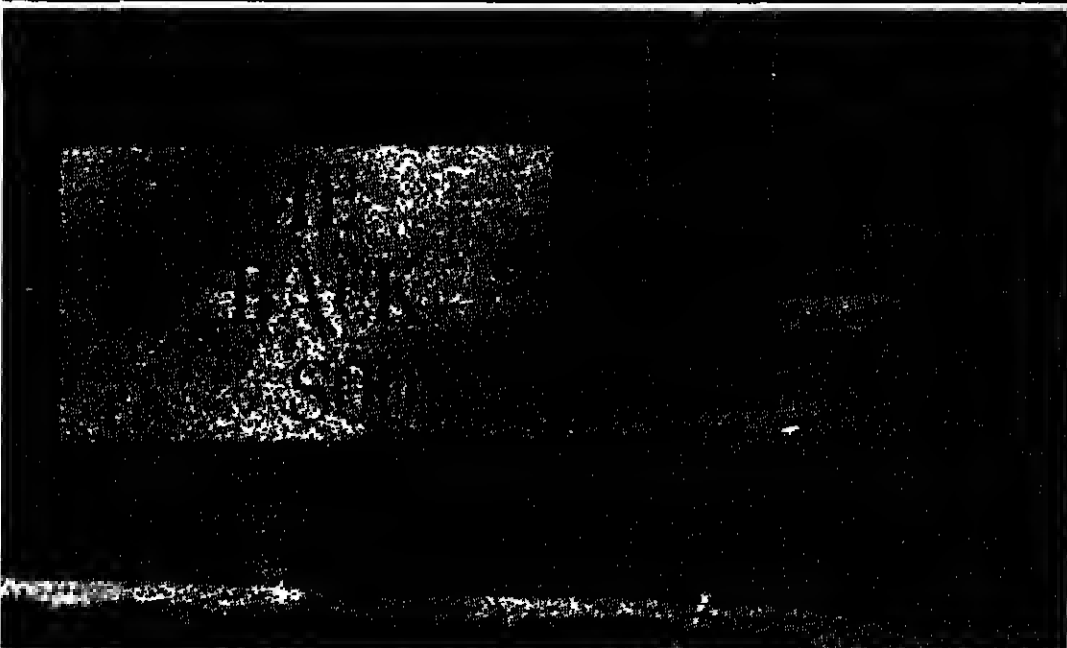
But the scanner still has much to learn before this speed can be achieved.

The project was presented in Moscow last October after a procedure had been devised, at the double, by which the computer can read the Roman and the Cyrillic alphabets.

They are shortly to be joined by Japanese characters. The Berlin project staff feel Korean characters are feasible too.

"But it will be a long time before computers can accurately translate Chinese," Suchenwirth says. He should know.

Each Chinese character can have as many as several dozen meanings. The computer has yet to be taught to memorise more than three — Frankfurt Rundschau.



## How to run a country house and keep out the theme parks

By Paul Majendie  
Reuter

BANTRY BAY, Ireland — Bantry House was the first Irish stately home opened to the public. Today's owner battles to keep afloat without resorting to garish theme parks.

Egerton Shelswell-White, whose family have lived in the elegant house for 250 years, waves a massive new annual insurance bill in the air and confesses: "a lot of the time I do get terribly depressed."

"But I think of all the family that lived here before and think it would be a crying shame to give it up. At least we have something to complain about," he said.

The trick is trying to balance the books without having fifiers roaming around a wildlife park in the garden or cable cars whizzing up the hillside to the spectacular view over one of the loveliest bays along Ireland's southwest

coast. Fairgrounds and bangerbois stands are definitely not for the man whose mother first opened Bantry House's doors to the public in 1945.

"Without wishing to decry other people's efforts, I would never want to go into zoos or that kind of gimmick. It would spoil the atmosphere."

"To this job you have to be part showman, part businessman and part lord of the manor," said the affable owner who attracts 35,000 visitors a year to his house but still needs more funds for upkeep.

So he went into the bed-and-breakfast business, joining 27 other stately home owners across Ireland who offer visitors the chance to sample the ambience of being a private guest in a palatial mansion.

Shelswell-White and his 27 colleagues clubbed together to form "The Hidden Ireland" as

the perfect magnet for wealthy tourists, especially from the United States, who are keen to enjoy a glimpse of how the other half lives. Bed and breakfast costs \$35 a head per night.

At the other end of Ireland, Lord Henry Mountcharles goes in for pop concerts, attracting stars like Bruce Springsteen and David Bowie to perform to thousands in the grounds of his Slane Castle.

Egerton Shelswell-White, a passionate musician who plays the trombone in a classical orchestra, two brass bands and a dance band, opts for a somewhat different path. His home is the intimate venue for a series of classical concerts.

But that is not a major moneyspinner. "I want to go more into the weddings, banquets and function business. I have got 500 people coming here from the (French car company) Citroen. That is very profitable."

His family's past too will soon



become a saleable commodity as the stables in the grounds of Bantry House are being converted into a museum to commemorate the bicentenary of the French invasion of Ireland in 1798.

The invasion, led by Irish patriot Wolfe Tone and French General Hoche against Britain, boasted a fleet of 43 ships and 16,000 men.

But the fleet was scattered by bad weather, only a few remnants made it to Bantry Bay and local landowner Richard White alerted

the British army, placed his home at the disposal of British troops and raised the "Bantry Cavalry."

For that loyalty to the British colonial masters of Ireland, he was created Baron Bantry and later promoted to earl. His son then went on a grand tour of Europe, sending back trunkloads of antiques that filled Bantry House.

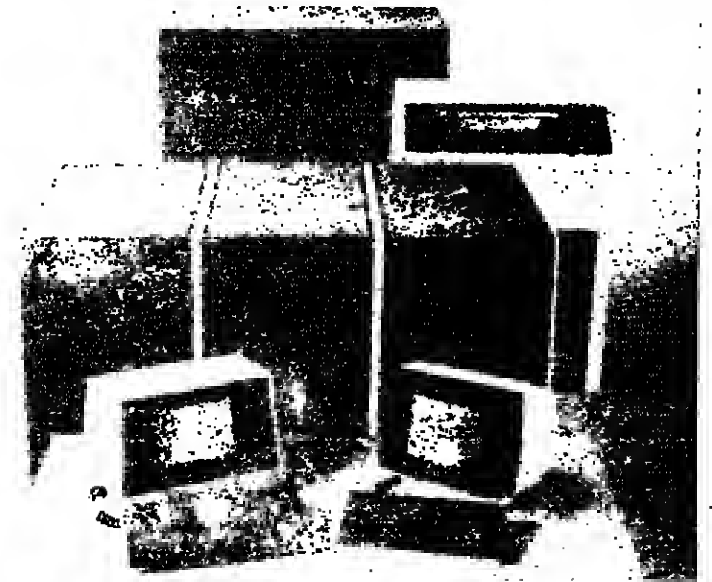
The house was built at the beginning of the 18th century and purchased in 1750 by the White family.

On return from his grand tour

of Europe, Richard White's son created a formal Italian garden with terraced steps looking down over the elegant mansion.

The house has stayed in the White family ever since and a portrait of Egerton Shelswell-White playing the trombone is the first family picture to greet you in the grand hall's entrance.

"I am very fortunate as my Austrian wife is a picture restorer. She is very good at that and is also a very good cook and does a lot of our catering," Shelswell-White said.



Cinema Tel: 677420

**CONCORD**

Richard Emilio Dreyfuss Estevez

**STAKE OUT**

Performances: 3:30, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

Cinema Tel: 675571

**NIJOUR**

**NICO**

Performances: 3:30, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

Cinema Tel: 677420

**PLAZA**

**BLIND DATE**

Performances: 3:30, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.



# Oman: The Leap from Medieval to Modern

By William N. Ralston

AS recently as 1970, when 30-year-old Sultan Qaboos bin Said assumed power, Oman was one of the most isolated, underdeveloped countries in the world. Three schools served fewer than one thousand students in a country of nearly one million people. Oman had no press, no radio, no phone system and only 10 kilometres of paved road.

But the country has since been transformed. In cities and towns, beige and white stucco homes and modern offices with brightly coloured doors provide up-to-date amenities. Many Omanis now enjoy radio, television and direct-dial telephones. More than 4,000 kilometres of asphalt highway link an area almost as large as Great Britain. Oman's crude oil is processed in local refineries. Over 2,300 industries have sprouted in and around Muscat, the capital on the Arabian Sea. And nowadays, Omanis have access to 44 hospitals, 76 clinics and over 700 schools.

Despite its modern facade, Oman is still a developing country in which technical assistance can—and is—making a difference in helping to bring the country's most remote regions into the twentieth century. Moreover, Oman's revenues from crude oil are hardly infinite. The country's wells could run dry within 20 years. That puts a premium on using every available resource to develop the country now against the time when earnings from oil are no longer available.

The government is currently pursuing a policy of "Omanisation," replacing expatriates with trained citizens. An estimated 300,000 people—30 per cent of the country's workforce—are foreigners. The country's future will depend largely on bringing the next generation of Omanis into the managerial and technical positions that form the backbone of any modern economy.

The challenge is formidable. Most professionals, technicians and bankers come from abroad. Tailors are mostly Indian. Over 80 per cent of the teachers and medical personnel and many of the agricultural extension workers are from overseas—a large percentage from Egypt, the Sudan and Jordan.

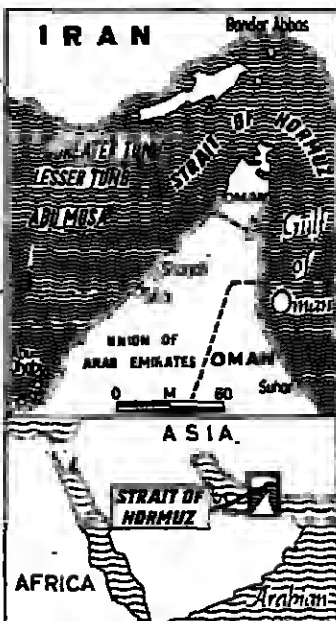
"Omanisation" also means reaching the people of the villages who form well over half the population. They are hardly touched by the fruits of industrial society. Electricity is coming. But plumbing is rare. Illiteracy remains widespread. Here, the task of enabling people to take charge of their own future is even more daunting than in urban areas. Responsibility for reaching the villagers lies with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour (MOSAL). "Until recently," says Mutasem Juma, head of MOSAL's Directorate-General for Community Development, "government for the village meant the local sheik (village chief)." Now, the Directorate's field workers go into villages and encourage formation of committees which discuss local problems and possible solutions. They also help guide the villagers in the planning and execution of their own projects.

Because a large portion of the programme is directed towards women, the head of Community Development works closely with his counterpart in charge of Women and Child Affairs. Women make up over 60 per cent of the population of most villages, mainly because an estimated 20,000 men work in Gulf state oil fields to the north while others commute to nearby towns.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has long supported MOSAL's community development programmes. UNDP provides advice on the formation of projects, assists in the selection of technical experts and helps provide UN Volunteers (UNVs). Funding comes entirely from the government. The 10 UNVs in Oman—soon to be 20—include a psychologist, sociologist, a specialist in physical rehabilitation, a statistician and an agronomist. All are deeply involved in training Omanis, many of whom are women in a society traditionally dominated by men.

Most village women seek basic services for themselves and their children. The programmes offered suggest the leap that Oman must make to develop an adequate pool of skilled managers and technicians. "We teach literacy, hygiene, nutrition and how to rear a child," says Juma, "subjects that were kept away from the villagers for many years." Juma speaks from experience, as he himself had to leave the country before 1970 in order to get advanced education.

Community development programmes are now underway in 21 villages which line the wadis near Rostaq, three hours drive west of Muscat. The wadis are riverbeds, dry most of the year. Towering above them are mountains of volcanic rock which jut into the bright blue sky. In many places, the wadis are lined with date palms which provide one of the



country's quality exports, and are descended from 30,000 seedlings planted in the 17th century by Imam Saif bin-Sultan in order to improve the life of his people. Under the palms wends the falaj, a canal system developed 2,000 years ago that is still the main method for distributing water to most villages.

In 1980, when the villagers were first approached, there were no community centers on roads. Now there are both. But the first priority was to teach basic literacy, which had an immediate spin-off. After learning to read, villagers could understand the writing on community health posters. As already proven in other developing countries, infant mortality rates dropped as soon as female literacy took hold.

New schools are usually followed by new clinics. Tawi Atair is a willaya—administrative region—of 66 villages lying in the monsoon-soaked Dhofar mountains on Oman's southern coast. A clinic is now bringing modern medicine to its 6,332 people who once relied on local potions for healing.

Dr. Mustafa Shendy, a smiling Egyptian, is in charge of the six-bed clinic in the town of Tawi Atair. Preventive medicine is his priority. He is training twenty students from the local high school to be paramedics. Eight are women. Dr. Shendy's goal is to use these students to help him train others in outlying villages in basic health care.

Women are encouraged to come to the clinic for childbirth and to bring their children for treatment. Tafood Aly Suhail and her four-year-old son Ahmed were there in early October. She had travelled 12 miles in a truck to have Ahmed treated for persistent diarrhoea. Her first child was born at home but the second was delivered in the clinic. She no longer hesitates to come for help if necessary. "We get medicine, a doctor's care, everything," she says. "Now my friends bring their children."

Agricultural improvement is another of Oman's development goals. In Wadi Beni Ghafir, near Rostaq, demonstration plots nestled along the falaj are planted with new varieties of tomatoes, onions and peppers. Farmers are also given plots for their own experiments. Seeds and fertilizer are provided by the government. Women are trained in processing vegetables and fruits.

According to Fatma Ahmad Hilal, an Egyptian teacher working in the programme, women want a means to earn money. "Making cakes, embroidering scarves and producing honey are among the skills that we teach," says Ms. Hilal. Embroidering the traditional Omani skullcap for males marks a sharp break with tradition. Males traditionally wore the skullcaps but as many men now work in the oilfields or in towns, the skill has been transferred to women. "The men," says Ms. Hilal, "encouraged the change."

In fact, Omani men routinely support their wives' participation in self-improvement projects. They like the extra income available to the family. Many believe that educated wives make better mothers.

A case in point is Aza Al-Miskry, a mother of seven who has attended literacy classes for seven years. She began assisting in the embroidery class whenever the instructor was away. She later attended a special course given at one of the eleven voluntary women's associations formed in recent years. Now, she is the programme's embroidery instructor. "My husband encouraged me," she says. "When needed, he drives students to and from classes here."

Perched on top of a hill in the village of Aim Ag is a weaving centre. Butressed against an old military watchtower, it consists of a few poles covered by a thin black cloth. It houses two large looms and a dozen workers. Ghania Saeed and Mariam Massoud, mothers in their early 20s, are working at one of the looms. The 1 x 2 metre rug that they are weaving portrays the houses, trees, birds and falaj found in the village.

The rug has already been sold for 90 rials (\$210) to a buyer in

Muscat. Any weaving and embroidery work not sold directly to customers is quickly snapped up by a government outlet in Muscat. "We can't keep the store supplied," says Mozal Seifi, an instructor who was born in nearby Rostaq.

Similar training programmes have been instituted in more than half of the villages in Oman. As resources and time permit they are being extended to the most remote areas and nomadic tribes. As part of this expansion, Muhammad Ahmad Awatef, a United Nations Volunteer working with the Directorate-General for Women and Child Affairs, is conducting a 110-question survey. "It covers the status of women from A to Z," says Mrs. Awatef, an Egyptian sociologist. "The goal is to scientifically draw a picture of how women view themselves and how they are viewed by men in order to enable the government to provide the necessary services."

The village-level survey is typical of the Omani approach to development. The government believes it is necessary for the people involved to be consulted before programmes are drawn up. Another basic aim of government assistance is village participation. Local residents pay half the value of projects in the form of money, labour or materials. Even in pre-school programmes, students must pay three rials (\$7) a month to attend classes.

Much remains to be done. Only 40 per cent of the eligible pre-schoolers attend classes. "The main reason," says Amrur bin Al Mazmuri, Acting Chief of Community Services in Sharqiyah willayat "is that their families often can't afford to pay three rials per month for each of their children. We shouldn't economise on these basic needs."

Omani women appear to have access to most opportunities open to men. "Women are treated equally under the law," says Huda Abdullah Al Ghazali, head of the Directorate-General for Women and Child Affairs and formerly the Army's chief of personnel. Women are active in business as well as government. And 43 per cent of all students are women. In fact, women are a majority in the first class in the new medical school at Sultan Qaboos University.

However, some Omanis feel

uncomfortable about co-education. Only 25 per cent of the nation's schools are coed. The remainder are all-male or all-female. The second and third classes of medical students at the University have fewer women than men. This is apparently not due to a lack of qualified women, but to a reluctance of some graduates of girls' schools to study alongside men. "The government strongly urges women to participate in medicine," says Dr. Rustum Burjorjee, Director of the University's Department of Behavioral Sciences. "Any resistance is on the part of prospective students, not the government."

The way seems to be open for "Omanisation" for all—men and women alike in a country where oil and enlightened government has brought much promise. There are jobs to be filled, a culture that prizes fairness, a government that is committed to development where it is most needed. Sultan Qaboos repeatedly emphasises that the government must not just talk about "Omanisation," it must vigorously pursue its implementation. As the villagers in the willayats of Tawi Atair and Sharqiyah can attest, the Sultan's message is getting through.



Community Development Director Hamed Mohammed Al Dwayni shows off new peppers



Classes in adult literacy and child care.

Hani Ali in action

## Focus on People

# Here comes the summer

By Mariam M. Shahin

This week Jordan's tennis ace Hani Ali talks to Focus on People about the importance of sports in the future of Jordan's youth.

Born in Kuwait in 1964, Hani Ali began playing tennis at the tender age of 11. "There were lots of clubs that provided facilities to those that wanted to play tennis or swim at a relatively low cost."

Most schools, both public and private, provided tennis courts and lessons to their students. "Actually public schools had the best sports facilities in Kuwait, that's why my last three years of schooling were spent in public schools," recalls Ali.

Ali's life changed when he moved with his family to Jordan in 1980. "I had the shock of my life, when we moved to Jordan, I was still at school, but the schools in Jordan did not provide the same facilities as those in Kuwait."

Ali found it was difficult to find courts, equipment coaches and people to play with. In 1981, he was among a delegation sent by His Majesty King Hussein of 6 tennis players to represent Jordan to a tennis training camp in the U.S. Although Ali's parents had previously sent him to tennis training camps in the U.S., it was on this particular trip that Ali made the contacts with the U.S. tennis establishments that were to prove crucial to his future. He received scholarships on the basis of his performance, first to Menlo College in California and eventually finished his B.A. degree at the University of Florida in economics. While attending university, Ali was being trained and promoted by an ex-tennis pro who took on the role of mentor. Ali spent three months every summer playing tennis in Europe and after graduating spent one year touring the world while participating in international and national tournaments.

After taking what he calls "a very difficult but necessary" decision to return to Jordan, Ali discovered various things. "People in Jordan have not been educated to respect sports as an activity that is on an equal par with other forms of study. Those that study sports at university are often considered to be those that have been rejected from the academic programmes. The tremendous prestige that comes with being an athlete in the U.S. therefore, is practically non-existent in Jordan."

According to Ali, each sport carries along with it a different type of personality that personifies that sport. More than just being physically fit Ali believes that sports are essential in the building of a well rounded, balanced character. "I respect the American education system a lot because they attempt to form well rounded people not people who are slaves to a machine or a certain profession."

Although Ali wants to begin his career as soon as possible using his economics degree, he has made a feasibility study on the possibility of opening a tennis school. There are barely two dozen tennis courts available to those who want to play tennis and these exist for the most part in private clubs. "I would like to make the sport available for almost anyone who wants to play," Ali, however, faces various obstacles. Those sponsors that he has found in Jordan are slowly backing away because of the ever continuing belt-tightening economic situation. For those that want to play, the cost of the sport is high. Ali explains that a can of three tennis balls currently costs JD 4.5 and for an active player such a purchase would have to make every other week "at least." Tennis rackets, shoes and other clothing are very costly as well. Judging from the figures, for those living in Jordan tennis is an elitist sport. Although the task is a difficult one, Ali aims at making it available to a much wider range of people than it currently is. "Once you start you will never want to stop, it is a beautiful, addictive game. Originally having thought of a deluxe school, Ali believes that even a basic school would cost about JD 300,000 to build. "That is a conservative estimate and as far as the location is concerned it would have to be outside of Amman. Otherwise the cost would easily reach double that amount."

In the last two or three years an increased awareness of physical fitness has allowed the growth of physical fitness centres that deal mostly with sports such as aerobics, muscle toning and body building.

The trend of being physically fit has picked up in Jordan, which is good. Now those responsible for educating children have to do the same. It's not a matter of teaching children how to play a certain game, it's a matter of educating children about sports. Once educationalists become fully aware that physical and mental fitness are combined then we will have taken the most essential step. In the U.S. they used to train our minds for a game with specialise computer games in order to strengthen our strategies and our concentration. How one performs in a game depends on ones psychological fitness.

Currently the Little League of the Tennis Federation is training over one hundred youngsters between the ages of nine and 14, with sessions twice a week and matches on Friday. The programme was inaugurated two months ago by Her Majesty Queen Noor. The waiting list is pretty long.

Considering that almost 60 per cent of Jordan's population is under the age of 18 and the fact that these kids have to have a let out for their energy somewhere, (since our society is socially conservative for the most part), it is only reasonable that sports activities to which they could channel their energies should be promoted and created on an ever increasing scale. Looking out of the window at the sun, Ali adds "and after all if you want to look good for the summer, tennis helps."

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## Oil prices soar after N. Sea blast

**LONDON (R) — World crude oil prices surged on Wednesday after a blast on a North Sea platform shut off a quarter of British supply.**

None of the 227 workers on board the platform was hurt in the explosion which followed a gas leak on platform Cormorant Alpha, some 100 nautical miles from land.

But the Tuesday night incident sent crude oil in Europe \$1 higher to \$20 a barrel, the highest in 20 months, extending a rally that had already moved petrol prices up in many nations.

Nearly half a million barrels of crude a day are normally pumped on a subsea pipeline running through a damaged leg of Cormorant Alpha from several fields including part of the giant Brent reservoir.

Operators Shell Expro said

pumping had now been stopped and, until the damage had been inspected, "it is impossible to give any indication of the length of time of the current shutdown."

A spokesman said there was "plenty in store" in the tanks at the Sullom Voe terminal in Scotland's Shetland Isles to which the oil is pumped for loading aboard tankers.

But the spot market was jittery. Prices were already riding high after March's Alaskan oil spill at Valdez and because of a tight U.S. petrol market. OPEC supply cuts and several earlier North Sea accidents which shut in big volumes of British oil.

After news of the latest inci-

dent, a cargo of Brent blend crude changed hands at \$20 a barrel for June loading, up more than \$1 from Tuesday night and the highest since Aug. 5, 1987, London traders reported.

In last autumn's glut, before the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) throttled excess supply, the price dipped almost to \$11.

Petrol-rich Brent is the most widely-traded crude internationally and a world benchmark. In Asian trading, sourer Middle East Dubai crude was offered at \$18, up 75 cents.

News on Tuesday from the American Petroleum Institute that U.S. crude stocks dropped by 5.72 million barrels in the second week of April also buoyed world prices.

Cormorant Alpha produces

only a modest 40,000 barrels of oil a day. But Tuesday's blast forced closure of a pumping system that had taken more than 470,000 barrels daily to the Sullom Voe terminal, 100 miles away in the Shetland Isles.

Total British oil output had been running at about 1.8 million barrels a day before the blast, already sharply below the 2.5 million of a year ago because of previous accidents.

Among these was the world's worst offshore oil disaster last July 6 when explosions in a gas compressor on North Sea platform Piper Alpha killed 167 men. A floating storage vessel broke loose in a storm in December forcing more platforms to close.

Shell Expro is a unit of Shell U.K. Ltd, part of the Royal Dutch/Shell oil group.

## India puts three big ports under state of emergency

**NEW DELHI (R) — Authorities declared a state of emergency at India's three biggest ports Wednesday in a bid to crush a dock workers' strike which has reduced trade to a trickle.**

The strike by some 300,000 dock workers for higher wages has virtually paralysed India's 10 major ports at a time when the government is laying special emphasis on exports.

Businessmen fear foreign vessels may dump cargoes destined for India at ports in other countries because of the strike.

About 50 India-bound vessels have already diverted to Karachi in Pakistan to unload containers as a result of the strike, a spokes-

man for Karachi Port Trust said. A spokesman for the surface transport ministry in New Delhi said a state of emergency had been declared at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras to enable port authorities to hire unregistered workers to handle cargo.

He said other ports had been authorised to take similar measures but so far only shipping line staff have been drafted to move export cargoes.

The last informal talks between the government and dock union leaders ended Tuesday with the two sides still far apart.

The spokesman said: "Our doors are still open (for talks) but they have not responded. The

stalemate is continuing."

The dock workers want a 25 per cent pay rise. The government has offered just under 16 per cent.

Minister of State for Surface Transport Rajesh Pilot told parliament the strike was illegal because it began while conciliation proceedings under the industrial disputes law were still underway.

"Government have taken steps to minimise the difficulties that the strike will cause by making arrangements to continue the handling of essential commodities such as crude oil, petroleum products, edible oils and defence cargo," he said.

The government summoned the navy and territorial army on Monday to handle cargoes unloaded by machine.

Businessmen are beginning to feel the pinch and fearing the worst.

K.R.V. Subrahmaniam, president of the Bombay Chambers of Commerce and Industry, said he feared supplies of raw materials

to industry would soon be affected as ships unload at other ports.

"Buyers of Indian goods will take a dim view of what is happening in this country," he said.

India's exports in the 1988/89 financial year ended last March are estimated at 200 billion rupees (\$13.5 billion). The government is hoping to double exports

Calcutta exporter Lalit Toolidas said India's jute exports, especially commitments to the Soviet Union, could be badly hit by the strike.

Calcutta jute exporters have contracts to deliver up to 40,000 tonnes between April and June to the Soviet Union.

Bombay businessman B.S. Grover said exporters were already jittery about losing contracts.

"There is a need for a long-term solution to the dock labour problem which keeps recurring with sickening regularity, undoing everything on the export front," Grover said.

## Canadian investors bid \$20m for Jerusalem Post

**TEL AVIV (R) — A Canadian group, including the owner of England's Daily Telegraph, made a surprise bid of \$20 million for the Jerusalem Post, millions more than the next closest bid, newspaper sources said Tuesday.**

Israel's Koor Industries, which owns the small but influential English-language daily, received 10 bids for the newspaper, news editor David Richardson told Reuters.

The Jerusalem Post has been assessed as worth about \$3 million, Israeli television reported. It has a daily circulation of 28,000 readers.

The offer by a Canadian group including Daily Telegraph owner Conrad Black was more than twice the bid from British publisher Robert Maxwell and the Canadian Claridge Group headed by Charles Bronfman, the news-

paper sources said. A spokesman for Koor, a troubled Labour federation-owned conglomerate that is selling off assets as part of a recovery plan, said the company was not committed to selling to the highest bidder.

But a newspaper source who spoke on condition he not be named said Koor would be hard pressed to reject a bid so much higher than others.

Other bids included a management buy-out and an offer by Arye Genger, a U.S.-based Israeli businessman with close ties to hawkish Trade and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon.

The Jerusalem Post was founded in 1932. The staff at the left-leaning paper called Tuesday for editorial independence no matter who won the bidding.

## To concentrate on gambling operations

### Ramada agrees to sell hotel group

**PHOENIX (AP) — Ramada Inc., a hospitality-industry trademark since 1954, has agreed to sell its 825 hotels and motels, change its name and become a gambling operation, the company said Tuesday.**

The \$540 million sale to New World Development Co. of Hong Kong will reduce Ramada's holdings to three casinos in Nevada and one in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

In turn, Prime Motor Inns of Fairfield, New Jersey, will pay an undisclosed sum to New World to operate as franchisor of roughly 600 hotels and motels in the United States that are under the Ramada and Rodeway names.

The hotel group has more than 144,000 rooms under the Ramada Inns, Ramada Hotels, Rodeway Inns and Renaissance Hotels Banners. Prime will not act as franchisor for the Renaissance

hotels or any overseas Ramada properties.

Ramada spokesman Joe Cole said company executives expected a return to profitability by concentrating on gaming. He said the new company, still unnamed, had no immediate plans for expansion.

"For the time being, we're going to run the properties we have," Cole said. "We just completed a five-year, \$350 million capital-expansion plan."

The Ramada name will belong to New World, and the gaming company will continue its headquarters in Phoenix, he said.

Ramada announced March 24 that it had agreed to sell its Marie Callender Pie Shops restaurant business. That sale for undisclosed terms will be completed by the end of the month, Cole said.

Shareholders in Ramada will get \$7 a share in cash and one-

quarter share in the new gaming company.

The transaction is a major step in Ramada's restructuring plan, begun last October, company chairman Richard Snell said.

"New World and Prime are making a major commitment to achieve success for the 800-plus hotels in the Ramada and Rodeway systems," Snell said in a statement. "The present Ramada Inc. shareholders will benefit from their investment with cash and a continuing interest in the new gaming company."

Cole said the full restructuring would be completed within two to three months.

"It will be about that long before we have the approval of the shareholders, plus getting it through the gaming regulators and making the distribution of the dividend and new stock," Cole said.

Ramada operates the Trop-world Casino and entertainment resort in Atlantic City, recently refurbished for \$200 million and reopened as the largest casino there.

The \$60 million Ramada Express Hotel Casino opened last June in Laughlin, Nevada. The other two holdings are the Tropicana Resort and Casino in Las Vegas and Eddie's Fabulous 50's Casino in Reno.

The new company will employ about 10,000 people, Cole said. Ramada currently employs about 20,000 — half in its gaming operations, 5,600 in the hotel group, and about 3,400 in the restaurant business.

The company lost \$5.1 million in 1988, when it got \$477 million in revenue from casino operations and \$244 million from hotels and motels.

## Tanzania launches 5-year plan to boost growth

**DAR ES SALAAM (R) —** Tanzanian President Ali Hassan Mwinyi has launched a new five-year development plan aimed at boosting economic growth and overhauling the country's rundown road and rail system.

Mwinyi told parliament in the future inland capital of Dodoma Tuesday night that the 1988-1993 plan would try to push economic growth to six per cent a year in mainland Tanzania and four per cent on the autonomous offshore island of Zanzibar.

"These are big increases considering that the GDP (gross domestic product) has been increasing by 0.8 per cent on the mainland and 2.1 per cent in Zanzibar between 1981 and 1985," he said.

Mwinyi said the new development plan aimed to cut the

budget deficit dramatically, rehabilitate Tanzania's rundown transportation system and boost exports by a third.

The president set socialist Tanzania on a programme of economic liberalisation and reform backed by the International Monetary Fund and World Bank soon after coming to power in 1985.

The new five-year development plan represents a continuation of his original three-year economic recovery programme. He said its success would depend on further substantial foreign aid.

Tanzania expects to receive \$800 million worth of aid from Western donors during the current July-June financial year. Mwinyi said Tanzania's agricul-

ture-based economy had picked up thanks to the reforms already implemented and he forecast growth of four per cent this year, up from 3.9 per cent in 1987/88 and 2.9 per cent in 1986/87. Exports were expected to reach \$400 million in 1988-89 financial year, up from \$347 million in 1987-88, he added.

He said the government was cutting the budget deficit to 9.6 billion shillings (\$71 million) this year from 28.5 billion (\$300 million) in 1987/88, but he did give details of how this would be achieved.

Investment would rise over the next five years to 25 per cent of GDP from 23 per cent at present and would be mainly concentrated in the transport sector, he said.

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## NBA Roundup

PHOENIX (AP) — The Phoenix Suns' defense in the National Basketball Association's No. 1 offense, and they have scored 277 points in their last two games, both record-setting blowouts.

But as their winning streak has grown to eight games, the Suns also have done a big job on defense.

"We've been emphasizing defense in practice with the playoffs coming up," said forward Tom Chambers, who leads the team in both scoring (25.8) and rebounding (8.4). "It's tough to learn the defensive rotations but we're starting to become really good at it, like it's second nature and we know what to do."

"Our defensive concentration is really good now. We aren't allowing teams to get any spurts, nothing consistent offensively, no easy baskets. This is really getting to be fun."

Ironically, it was the Suns' last loss — a 135-123 defeat at Sacramento on March 30 — that got the defense in gear.

The Kings, who are the NBA's worst field goal shooting team this season at 45 percent, hit 54 percent against Phoenix in that game and Suns coach Cotton Fitzsimmons vowed his club would not be defensive passives again.

Since then, the Suns have limited opponents to a high of 49 percent shooting and a low of 37 percent.

Monday night's 140-85 win over Sacramento was the Kings' second-worst loss in their 41-year history and Phoenix's most lopsided victory in its 21 seasons.

It came after a 137-91 home win Saturday night over San Antonio, which shattered the Suns' previous mark for a lopsided victory by three points.

The eight-game winning streak is the longest in the league currently and is one short of the franchise record, originally set in 1971-72 and matched in 1978-79.

Phoenix plays the expansion Miami Heat Wednesday night in the makeup of a Jan. 17 game postponed by rioting in Overton, Florida.

"We hope we can win that one and keep this streak going all the way into the playoffs," said guard Jeff Hornacek. "We're definitely the hottest team around right now."

"We're on a roll," said Eddie Johnson, the league's top-scoring sixth man with a 21.6-point average. "We're passing the ball extremely well, hitting the open man. Even our bench guys are putting the ball through the hoop. Defensively, if we just give a team one shot at the basket, we're going to be very tough to beat."

"If they keep playing like this, they'll be world champions," said Kings forward Wayman Tisdale. "I've never seen a team take another team out of everything like they did to us."

Phoenix had a season-high 16 steals, netted 30 points off Sacramento's 24 turnovers and improved their homecourt record to 35-5 overall and 28-0 against Western Conference competition.

The victory put the Suns a half-game behind the Los Angeles Lakers for both the Conference and Pacific Division lead. They are the only team this decade to win the division other than the Lakers, doing it in 1980-81.

"They're as good as the Lakers right now," said Kings coach Jerry Reynolds. "They've got everything they need — good defensive stoppers and great perimeter shooters. I would say the Suns right now are probably the best team in the NBA."

Phoenix, 28-54 last season, has the third-best turnaround in league history at 53-26. The win total is the third-highest in club history, tying the mark established by the 1982-83 team and trailing only the 57-victory season of 1979-80.

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## Johnson's trial delayed

TORONTO (R) — Sprinter Ben Johnson's trial on weapons charges has been adjourned until August because testimony at a federal inquiry into drug use in amateur sports could be prejudicial to his case, his lawyer said Tuesday.

Johnson will plead not guilty when he appears in provincial court on August 22 on allegations he threatened a motorist with a gun while driving his black Porsche on a Toronto highway last October, lawyer Martin Kerbel said.

He was stripped of his gold medal in the 100 metres at the Seoul Olympics last September after a urine test showed evidence of the banned anabolic steroid stanozolol.

The scandal sparked the creation of a federal inquiry that has exposed widespread drug use in amateur sports.

"The royal commission is dealing with stuff that intimately involves him at this time," Kerbel told Reuters. "It wouldn't be fair."

Johnson's trial had been scheduled to begin Monday.

The motorist in the highway incident last October noted the



Ben Johnson

licence plate number, which police said led them to Johnson's car. Police later confiscated from Johnson's Porsche a starter's pistol, a gun that can only fire blanks.

Johnson, 26, told police he had been driving the car at the time but denied he had pointed the gun at anyone.

The athlete, charged with one count of assault and one count of possession of a weapon dangerous to the public peace, faces either a jail term, fine or probation if found guilty.

Johnson has no criminal record.

## Death toll continues to rise

## Liverpool defers replay decision

LONDON (R) — Liverpool soccer club Tuesday deferred a decision on whether to continue in this season's F.A. Cup competition after the deaths of 95 of their fans at Hillsborough.

Liverpool chairman John Smith, after a three-hour board meeting at the club, said the Football Association had been insensitive in asking the club to make up its mind so soon after the tragedy. The board put off any decision until next Tuesday.

The F.A. had said the semifinal with Nottingham Forest, abandoned after six minutes Saturday when fans in the Liverpool end were crushed to death, could be replayed if the Merseyside club agreed.

## Francona: owner of a Ryan jinx?

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Terry Francona said he doesn't have Nolan Ryan's number, just a lucky rabbit's foot when he plays against the ace major league baseball pitcher.

Already in this young 1989 baseball season, Francona has broken up a Ryan no-hitter in one game and collected two hits and scored two runs against him in another.

Francona helped drive Ryan out of the game Monday night in an 8-1 Milwaukee Brewers' victory that snapped in Texas Rangers' winning streak at eight games, one shy of the franchise record. A week ago, he singled in the eighth inning to snap Ryan's bid for a sixth no-hitter.

"Everybody is acting like I got Ryan's number, but I'm just happy to be playing against him," Francona said.

Francona and Ryan do have the same agent, Dick Moss.

After Francona broke up Ryan's no-hitter last week, Ryan quipped, "well at least we kept it in the family."

Francona said his hits against Ryan "were fortunate ones."

He said Ryan can pitch well even on a bad night.

"I'll take hits off anybody," Francona said. "Even on an off night, Ryan still has decent stuff. We got a lot of breaks."

Francona said his hits against Ryan were bleeders.

"On the first one I doubled down the right field line with just a dribbler down the first base line, he jammed me pretty good and I just fought it off," Francona said.

Francona, who was an invited free agent to training camp, said there should be a bonus for anyone who hits Ryan's pitches.

"You don't get any extra points on your batting average for getting hits off Nolan Ryan," Francona said. "It's tougher to get them off Nolan but they don't count any more than any others."

Ryan said he doesn't think Francona has a jinx over him.

"He hasn't mastered me yet," Ryan said. "He did hit a good pitch for a double, but the second hit he got was a nubber."

Ryan said he didn't have command of his pitches.

to the future of the F.A. Cup competition so close to those events, with supporters lying seriously ill in hospital and funerals to be arranged."

A 14-year-old boy injured in the crush at the Sheffield stadium died overnight, bringing the death toll to 95.

Liverpool have postponed their top-of-the-league clash with Arsenal next Sunday as a sign of respect for the victims and the football league said Tuesday that they and the other two Merseyside clubs, Everton and Tranmere Rovers, could put off all their fixtures indefinitely.

"We all feel there should be a decent period of mourning but

only the local clubs can decide how long that should be," football league president Jack Dunnett said.

Kelly said later Tuesday that the F.A.'s plans for holding the semifinal on May 7 at Manchester United's Old Trafford ground would be held in abeyance until at least after the Liverpool board's meeting next Tuesday.

F.A. chairman Bert Millichip has said he would like to see the proceeds from the cup final, if it was played, go to the families of those who died at Hillsborough.

Liverpool's neighbours, Everton, are already through to the final.

## McEnroe and Lendl dazzle

TOKYO (R) — John McEnroe and Ivan Lendl unleashed flashes of brilliance to secure victories but four more seeds, including seriously injured Pat Cash, crashed out of the \$752,500 Japan Open tennis tournament Wednesday.

Former Wimbledon champion Cash, seeded 16th here, crumpled into a writhing ball of agony after attempting a serve and was carried off court on a stretcher during the first set of his match against American Bill Scanlon.

The Australian's coach, Ian Barclay, said Cash would fly to Melbourne Wednesday night for surgery on his right Achilles tendon. He may be out of competition for up to two months.

Sweden's Mikael Pernfors, seeded eighth, 13th-seeded Australian John Fitzgerald and American Robert Seguso, number 15, all fell in the second round to follow Tuesday's three beaten seeds out of the event.

But on centre court, third-seeded McEnroe dazzled the local crowd with a 6-2, 6-2 win over unseeded Australian Brad Drewett.

The American, whose comeback success began when he won here last year, produced much of his old magic, including tantalizing lobs to back court and lightning reactions at the net.

I certainly think I have improved a lot since last year," McEnroe said. "But I don't think I played the best I can play."

World number one Lendl had to labour in the first set to overcome American Paul Chamberlin 7-6 (7-4) 6-3.

The seeded Chamberlin survived two set points in the ninth game but blew the tie-break with a series of errors, blasting a "home-run" into the crowd at set



John McEnroe



Ivan Lendl

In the first set he broke Drewett's serve in the second and eighth games. He then plundered the first four games of set two before Drewett, ranked 119, showed a little form by breaking McEnroe in the fifth.

At 30-30 in the final game, McEnroe bolted across most of the court to scoop up the ball and lob it over Drewett's head. The Australian lunged for it, turned, stroked back to the baseline and served a double fault for the match.

World number one Lendl had to labour in the first set to overcome American Paul Chamberlin 7-6 (7-4) 6-3.

The seeded Chamberlin survived two set points in the ninth game but blew the tie-break with a series of errors, blasting a "home-run" into the crowd at set

point. Lendl, who took the next set with his normal intense, powerful tennis, was underdrawn by his victory. "I had difficulties. I was just getting used to the conditions," he said.

Asked about meeting old friend Bill Scanlon in round three, the big Czechoslovak said "I won't remember the part about him being a friend. He is just another guy trying to beat me."

Pernfors blamed a surfeit of tennis and flagging enthusiasm for his 6-3, 6-2 loss to American Scott Davis and said he will rest from tennis until the French Open in May.

Fitzgerald lost 5-7, 6-2, 7-5 to fellow-Australian Jason Stoltenberg and Seguso went down 6-3, 6-3 to unseeded Milan Srejber of Czechoslovakia.

## Zamalek disqualified from Cup

CAIRO (R) — Sudan's Mawrada soccer club qualified for the next round in the African Champion's Cup after the African Football Federation (AFF) suspended Egypt's Zamalek for misconduct at a match in Khartoum, an AFF spokesman said Wednesday.

Spokesman Vikein Heragia told Reuters a committee from Cameroon, Mauritius, Somalia and Guinea led by the AFF president Eisa Hayatou suspended Zamalek from this year's competition.

The committee also suspended until September 18 six Egyptian players from all African soccer competitions.

A final decision on their fate would be taken during the next AFF council meetings due in Cairo on September 18, Heragia said.

The six players included three internationals: Ashraf Qassem, Ahmed Ramzi and Ezzat Nassar who were due to play with the national team Friday in the second leg match with Ethiopia in the eliminations for the African Nations Cup. Egypt lost its first leg in Ethiopia 0-1.

The Egyptian team manager Mahmoud Gawahri told reporters the AFF decision made it difficult for him as three other internationals — Alaa Mayhoub, Ismail Youssef and Hossam Hassan — had leg injuries.

He quickly recalled Egypt's sole professional midfielder Magdi Abdel-Ghani who plays for Beera Mar, a Portuguese first division club. He also lined up other reservists from local clubs to fill the gap.

Abdel-Ghani arrived in Cairo Tuesday night and told reporters he was confident Egypt would beat Ethiopia.

The Ethiopian referee Kevele Kidanemariam stopped the April 1 Khartoum match in the 55th minute when Ibrahim Youssef, Zamalek's captain, was alleged to have refused to leave the field after he was shown a red card for rough play.

Mawrada was leading at the time 1-0 and had lost the Cairo leg 1-2 two weeks earlier.

According to the referee's report other Zamalek players tried to attack him which made it impossible to continue the match. Zamalek denied all claims by the referee against the Egyptian players and filed a protest which the AFF rejected.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
AND OMAR SHARIF

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## WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠ A Q A K 7 3    ♠ 8 7 4    ♠ A K 3  
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one spade. What action do you take?

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠ J 6    ♠ K J 5    ♠ A K Q 10 7    ♠ A 4  
Your right-hand opponent opens three hearts. What action do you take?

Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠ Q 10 7    ♠ A 6    ♠ K 9 5    ♠ A Q 7 6 5  
The bidding has proceeded:  
West North East South  
1 ♠ 2 ♠ 3 ♠ 4 ♠  
What do you bid now?

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠ A 7 4    ♠ 6    ♠ K J 9 5 2    ♠ 8 7 3  
The bidding has proceeded:  
West North East South  
1 ♠ 2 ♠ 3 ♠ 4 ♠  
What do you bid now?

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠ K 10 7 6    ♠ 5    ♠ K J 6    ♠ 9 8 6 5 2  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ 2 ♠ 3 ♠ 4 ♠  
What action do you take?

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠ 9 5 4    ♠ 7    ♠ A K 9 8 7 2    ♠ A 6 3  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ 2 ♠ 3 ♠ 4 ♠  
What action do you take?

Look for answers on Monday.

## THE BETTER HALF.

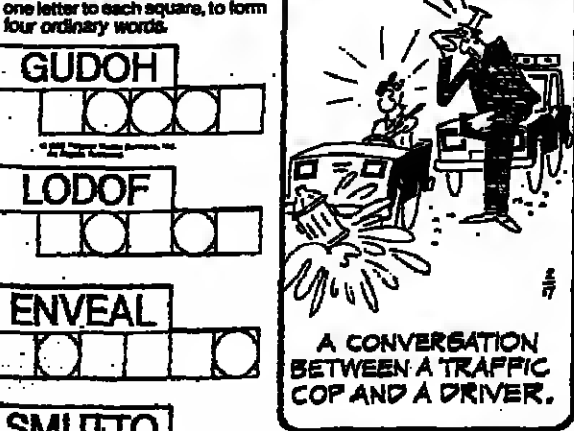
By Harris



"Sometimes I think Stanley would misplace his head if it weren't attached!"

## JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



A CONVERSATION BETWEEN A TRAFFIC COP AND A DRIVER.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: A

Yesterday's Jumble: TITLE LAUGH FURROW HELIUM

Answer: Why he ate so much bread — HE WAS IN "LOAF" WITH IT (in love with it)

## FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 1989

## GENERAL TENDENCIES:

There is a tendency to get boxed in to routines that are old and worn out. The day favors casual excitement that is low key, private, secluded and even hush-hush. The mouse in the corner will love it.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Others are rooting for you. It is possible to win on many fronts today. Personal obligations take time. A financial crisis is inevitable.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You prefer to have time to finish personal projects. Someone aggressive may come on like a steam roller.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You are not a collector, but a garage sale this weekend would bring favorable results. Tune your mind to pleasant thoughts.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) It may be difficult to control matters according to your own wishes. It may be necessary to procrastinate on a creative project.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Upheavals on the domestic front call for some fence mending. You are on firm ground but give attention where it is needed.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Head for a favorite spa and treat yourself and the whole family. A flexible attitude will bring surprises and adventure.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) The social scene promises to be lively. It seems like the start of a fun weekend. Being active is great for the waistline.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Your lethargic mood can irritate feisty family members who are demanding. You can finish errands quickly. The p.m. brings change.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You can be practical, as well as creative, when you want to. You need to schedule your time to keep things humming.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Someone you are eager to meet would enjoy a phone call or other contact. Don't overindulge. Handle money carefully.

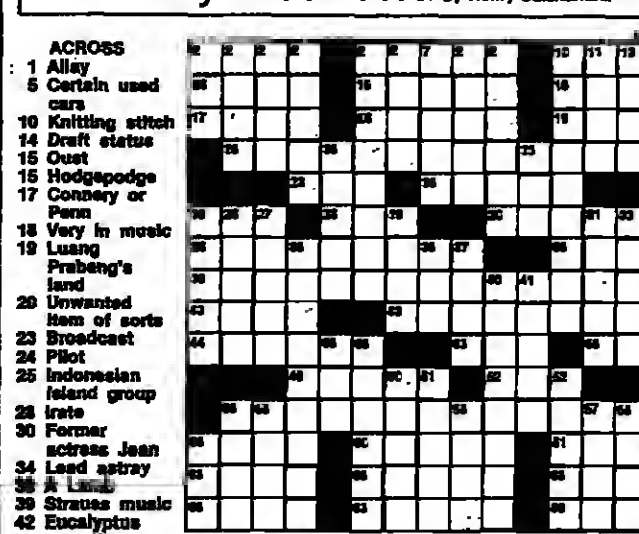
AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) A rest would be good for you, but not today. Demands on your time are making you a wreck. Cover less ground with more gusto.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) This can easily be a scattered day if you let it. Concentrate on details that can be overlooked. Wine, dine and circulate with friends.

DOWN  
1 Lettuce type  
2 Over again  
3 Jacob's  
4 wife  
5 Dark sugar

41 Courted  
42 Indisposed  
43 Ah, fly  
44 Go on —  
45 (have a spree)  
46 land  
47 Flower's  
48 miller  
49 Actor Calhoun  
50 Self-esteem

## THE Daily Crossword by Henry Sotshandler



ACROSS  
1 Alley  
5 Certain used cars  
10 Kitting stitch  
14 Drift status  
15 Out  
16 Hodgepodge  
17 Convey or Penn  
18 Very in music  
19 Luau  
20 Prebeng's land  
21 Unwanted item of sorts  
22 Broadest  
23 Pilot  
24 Indonesian island group  
25 Inste  
26 Former actress Jean  
27 Lead astray  
28 A Lami  
29 Strains music  
30 Eucalyptus secretion  
31 Malt  
32 Attractive  
33 — de corps  
34 — Grande  
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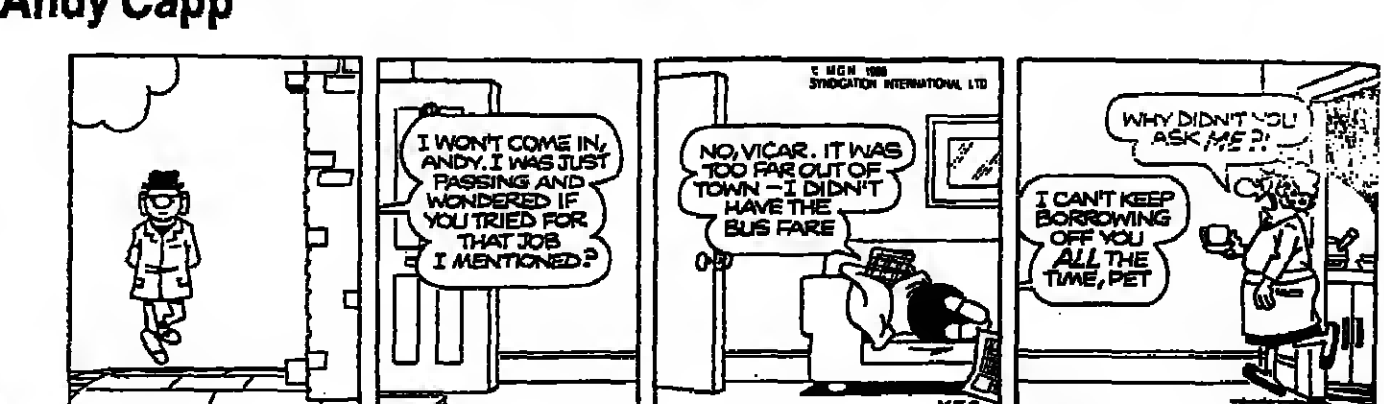
## Peanuts



## Mutt'n' Jeff



## Andy Capp







As the crush develops at Hillsborough stadium, Liverpool supporters try to climb the fence to safety but are sent back by police trying to prevent a pitch invasion during Saturday's stampede.

## 'Drunken fans robbed Sheffield corpses'

LONDON (R) — Drunken Liverpool fans looted the corpses of supporters crushed to death in Hillsborough soccer stadium and attacked police tending to the injured, British newspapers reported Wednesday.

The reports said fans pilfered money and possessions from the dead and attacked police after Saturday's crowd crush killed 95 people at a football match between Liverpool and Nottingham Forest in the northern city of Sheffield.

Most papers gave prominent treatment to the allegations under banner headlines such as "crush bodies looted" and "police hit back at the fans."

The Daily Express quoted Conservative Sheffield Member of Parliament Irvine Patnick as saying: "I spoke to many policemen in the makeshift mortuary. They told me they were hampered, harassed, punched and kicked."

"They had no reason to lie. I saw the bruises on their bodies," he added. "One important question that must be answered is what part alcohol played in this whole tragic business."

Police have been severely criticised for a senior officers' decision to open a gate that let thousands of fans surge onto a packed terrace already filled with standing supporters. It was Britain's worst sporting disaster.

But they say that decision was taken under extreme pressure as

waves of supporters swept towards the stadium in the last minutes before the start of the Football Association Cup semifinal.

The Daily Telegraph quoted Paul Middelup, chairman of the South Yorkshire Police Federation, as saying many of the fans had been drinking heavily before the game.

"There was mass drunkenness among many of the 3,000 supporters who turned up at the turnstiles just before kick-off. Some of them were uncontrollable. A great number of them had obviously been drinking heavily," he said.

Other newspapers quoted unnamed police officers as saying fans had urinated on them as they attempted to save lives after the crush.

Liverpool supporters and club officials have fiercely rejected suggestions that hooliganism caused the disaster. They have demanded the resignation of European soccer chief Jacques Georges for comparing fans at the game to "beasts who wanted to charge into an arena."

Georges has since written to the English Football Association saying he may have reacted too harshly because of memories of the 1985 Heysel stadium disaster in Brussels when 39 spectators died in a crowd crush. In that tragedy, Liverpool fans charged supporters of Italian side Juventus and a wall collapsed in the ensuing panic.

## Colombo ends truce

COLOMBO (Agencies) — The government Wednesday ended its unilateral ceasefire after a week in which 110 people were killed in escalated ethnic violence, officials said.

"It is back again to anti-subversive operations," Deputy Defence Minister Ranjan Wijeratne said in an interview.

The government of President Ranasinghe Premadasa had ordered suspension of military operations against Tamil and Sinhalese militants to give them a chance to surrender and join the political mainstream.

Military officials said 233 Sinhalese radicals surrendered during the week at 228 centres set up across the country. The officials cannot be identified under briefing rules.

Although the ceasefire had ended, Wijeratne said "the subversives could still surrender if they wished."

"Subversives" is the term used by officials for Tamil and Sinhalese extremists whose separate wars against the government

have claimed 12,600 lives in the past six years.

In the worst incident of violence during the ceasefire, 45 people were killed Thursday in northeast Sri Lanka in a car-bombing blamed on the largest Tamil guerrilla group, the Liberation of Tamil Eelam.

The guerrillas denied responsibility for the explosion and in a surprise move Saturday said they were ready for talks with the government. That may pave the way for an end to their six-year-old campaign for a separate homeland.

The Tigers have appointed Anton Balasingham, a Sri Lankan-born Tamil who is now a British citizen, to start the peace talks. Balasingham, the recently named head of the Tigers' political section, is expected to arrive soon from London, according to

Premadasa's press secretary, Evans Cooray.

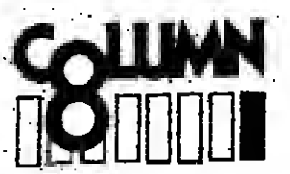
Premadasa also offered to talk with Sinhalese extremists who launched a violent campaign against the government after former President Junius R. Jayewardene tried to make peace with the Tamil separatists.

The Sinhalese radicals, whose group is called the People's Liberation Front, said too many concessions were being given to Tamils and started assassinating Sinhalese government officials and supporters. They have not yet responded to the government offer.

Tamil militants began fighting in 1963 for a separate homeland they want to set up in northern and eastern provinces where most Tamils live.

Tamils comprise 18 per cent of Sri Lanka's 16 million people and say they are discriminated in jobs and education by the majority Sinhalese.

Sri Lanka's government and military has been dominated by the Sinhalese



## Sheriff's office makes own crack cocaine

FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida (AP) — Some of the crack cocaine sold on Broward County Streets was processed not in dark labs in crime-ridden neighbourhoods, but on the seventh floor of the county courthouse. The sheriff's office has been turning cocaine into the purified, smokable form because it can't get enough to supply undercover officers setting up street sweeps to arrest buyers. But defence attorneys say that it's ethically wrong for the sheriff's office to make crack, also known as rock. A spokesman for Broward Sheriff Nick Navarro, who seems to thrive on publicity and controversy, said Tuesday the sheriff was pleased with the operation's results. "With all this publicity, I suppose all the attorneys will be keenly aware of it," said spokesman Jim Lejdel. "We believe our cases will stand up." Although the sheriff's office had believed it was the first in the nation to make its own crack, the Polk County sheriff's department last June produced 311 grammes of crack cocaine for undercover use.

## Stolen Van Gogh reportedly returned

OTTERLO, The Netherlands (AP) — One of the three Van Gogh paintings stolen from a Dutch museum last December has been recovered by the museum, Dutch radio reported Monday. The painting, identified as Vincent van Gogh's "Weaver's Interior," was returned to the museum after thieves demanded a ransom of five million guilders (\$2.5 million), according to the radio report. Ransom negotiations with the thieves were conducted in writing, according to the report, which did not specify if any ransom had actually been paid. No further details were disclosed in the radio report. On Dec. 12, thieves smashed a window in the Kroeller-Mueller National Museum in the eastern Dutch village of Otterlo and took three paintings by the Dutch impressionist, including an early version of his world-famous "Potato Eaters" and "Wilted Sunflowers." No official estimate of the three paintings' value has ever been disclosed. But the director of the Christie's auction firm in Amsterdam said at the time the price of "Potato Eaters" alone could rival that of "Sunflowers," which sold for \$39.9 million at a London auction in 1987.

## Harris still going strong

LOS ANGELES (AP) — It has been 44 years since Julie Harris made her Broadway debut, and the actress who has won five Tony Awards shows no signs of fading. Among the changes she said she has seen in the theatre are that "there aren't that many plays being done in New York anymore. The regional theatres have taken over, and that's a big movement." The 63-year-old actress particularly loves the role she's playing now, a woman who ages from 72 to 97 in Alfred Ury's 1988 Pulitzer Prize-winning play "Driving Miss Daisy." Harris plays a southern widow named Daisy who has a crusty relationship with her black chauffeur, played by Brock Peters. "Daisy, if you pull her apart and put her under a microscope, has a lot of faults," Harris said by telephone from Seattle, where she was appearing in the stage production of the play. "She's proud, she's prejudiced in her own way, and yet she's an adorable, wonderful character because she's like all of us, she's not perfect."

## Global weather (major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	W. Weather
AMSTERDAM	03	07	45 Cloudy
ATHENS	11	24	75 Clear
BAHRAIN	21	70	81 Cloudy
BANGKOK	28	82	97 Clear
BUENOS AIRES	13	57	78 Cloudy
CAIRO	12	54	75 Cloudy
CHICAGO	02	35	97 Clear
COPENHAGEN	03	37	97 Cloudy
FRANKFURT	03	43	54 Cloudy
GENEVA	03	43	54 Cloudy
HONG KONG	22	72	82 Clear
ISTANBUL	12	54	75 Cloudy
LONDON	05	41	58 Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	15	60	74 Cloudy
MADRID	03	37	83 Clear
MECCA	27	81	108 Cloudy
MIAMI	21	70	78 Cloudy
MONTREAL	01	34	05 Cloudy
MOSCOW	04	39	101 Cloudy
NEW DELHI	20	88	100 Clear
NEW YORK	15	52	74 Clear
PARIS	05	41	52 Cloudy
ROME	07	44	11 Clear
TOKYO	15	58	73 Cloudy
VIENNA	01	34	57 Clear

## Scientist defends fusion research

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A University of Utah scientist who claimed to have achieved fusion in a jar of water says further experiments have yielded even more energy and run more efficiently.

Chemistry Professor Stanley Pons also said at a news conference Monday that the claims he made last month with British colleague Martin Fleischmann had been partly verified by more than 60 university and private laboratories.

Fleischmann, of the University of Southampton, said in a Radio Netherlands interview that he had not wanted to announce the process until next year, but because of the importance of the work, the scientists had to "publish and be damned."

The two drew scepticism from experts when they announced March 23 that an experiment using common lab equipment at room temperature had been run for more than 100 hours and had achieved nuclear fusion, produc-



B. Stanley Pons and Martin Fleischmann

ing four times as much energy as it used.

Pons said Monday that a controlled fusion reaction has been sustained more than 800 hours in a small flask containing heavy water and a palladium electrode. He said recent tests produced roughly eight times the energy consumed.

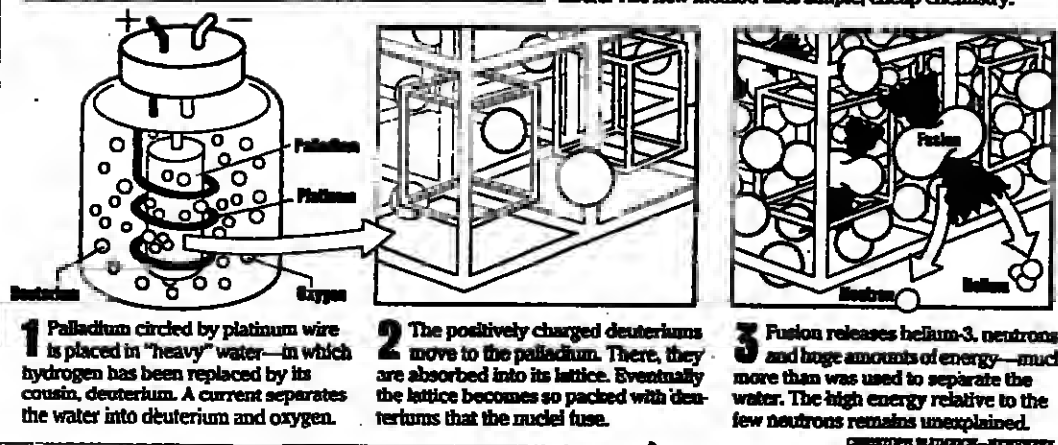
Pons said researchers measured the production of 20 to 30

watts of electricity from the experiment, or about 67 watts per cubic centimetre of electrode. That compares with 26 watts per cubic centimetre in the earlier experiments.

Of the more than 60 other experimenters, Pons said none has reported observing both the production of neutrons and the high level of heat that he and Fleischmann produced.

## Creating Fusion in a Bottle

The standard approach to fusion uses powerful magnets or lasers. The new method uses simple, cheap chemistry.



1 Palladium electrode is placed in "heavy" water—in which hydrogen has been replaced by its cousin, deuterium. A current separates the water into deuterium and oxygen.

2 The positively charged deuterium ions move to the palladium. They are absorbed into its lattice. Eventually the lattice becomes so packed with deuterium that the nuclei fuse.

3 Fusion releases helium-3, neutrons and large amounts of energy—much more than was used to separate the water. The high energy relative to the few neutrons remains unexplained.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE, NOVEMBER 1988

## 67 killed as Indian train runs off rails

NEW DELHI (AP) — Twelve cars of a high-speed passenger train jumped the rails and careened down a 5.5-metre embankment in central India, killing at least 67 people and seriously injuring 119 others, officials said Wednesday.

The New Delhi-bound express derailed Tuesday between Lalitpur and Dailwara stations about 450 kilometres south of the capital, said Mathew John, the chief of

was a series of thuds and we found our coach overturning," a passenger, V.N. Murthy, was quoted as telling the news agency.

John did not disclose the speed at which the train was travelling when it crashed but said high-speed trains normally run at 110 kilometres per hour.

"There was no speed restriction on the train in that sector," he said.

John said the two diesel-powered locomotives pulling the train were running at full speed when the train derailed. The train was carrying 1,000 passengers and was scheduled to reach New Delhi Tuesday but was running several hours late at the time of the crash.

The dead included four men from a 14-member Karnataka state "Kabaddi" team, who were travelling to Haridwar in north

India to participate in a tournament of the rough-and-tumble version of tag.

There are no telephone communications between New Delhi and Jhansi, the nearest major rail junction to the crash. But John said railroad officials were in touch with Jhansi by wireless.

He said an inquiry to determine the cause of the derailment will begin Friday.

At least four trains bound for south India from New Delhi Wednesday were cancelled because the derailment blocked tracks, officials at the capital's railroad station said.

More than 100 people were killed July last when a high-speed train ran off the rails on a bridge and fell into a river below in the southern state of Kerala.

## Comedian undergoes surgery

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Lucille Ball, the Zany redheaded queen of comedy, was in guarded condition Wednesday after seven hours of emergency high-risk cardiac surgery during which she received heart tissue donated from a 27-year-old man.

The 77-year-old comedian suffered a heart attack at her fashionable Beverly Hills home Tuesday, and arrived at Cedars-Sinai Medical Centre with her husband, Gary Morton.

"She came out of the surgery OK," said Ron Wise, the hospital's spokesman.

Ball suffered a tear in her aorta, the main artery in the body, said her surgeon, Dr. Robert Kass.

During the operation, her heart was stopped for two hours, said Kass. With the heart stopped, blood was pumped through her body by a machine as Kass replaced part of her aorta and aortic valve. The donor was a 27-year-old man, Kass said. No other details were released about the donor.

Ball was listed as guarded after the "high-risk procedure with a fairly substantial mortality rate," the surgeon said.

"The fact that she came through this leaves me optimistic," Kass told reporters late Tuesday. "The major risk is in the operating room, at least initially."

Ball probably will be in intensive care for several days and remain hospitalized for weeks, Wise said.

As word of Ball's heart attack spread, the hospital's switchboards were jammed with calls from well-wishers and news organizations around the world. Wise said that flowers also were arriving.

## Prosecutor likens North attitude to Adolf Hitler's

WASHINGTON (R) — The prosecution likened the attitude of former White House aide Oliver North to that of Hitler while the defence depicted him as a patriot who risked his life for his country as the Iran-contra trial wound down.

"North... (is) following Adolf Hitler's old strategy: the victor will never be asked if he told the truth," chief prosecutor John Keiser said during Tuesday's hearing.

In reply chief defence counsel Brendan Sullivan depicted North as a patriot "who put his life on the line in Vietnam... the kind of man who puts himself in the way of danger so others are protected."

"This is a phony case from start to finish and I'm going to show you why," Sullivan said. "Worst is the reference to Adolf Hitler... you should be offended by it and you should judge everything they

(the prosecutors) say by it because anybody who would link Colonel North to Adolf Hitler is not credible."

North, a former lieutenant colonel in the marines, is on trial on 12 criminal charges stemming from his role in the 1985-86 Iran-contra plan to sell arms to Iran and funnel the proceeds to the Nicaraguan contras at a time when military aid to the rebels was banned.

Sullivan accused prosecutors of giving a distorted view of the facts by viewing evidence "through a filthy glass."

"The evidence is overwhelming that it's the government that's blaming Oliver North for everything," he said in his final argument Tuesday.

"The view of evidence in this court is sick and twisted... seen through a filthy glass," Sullivan said.

The fired National Security

aide has pleaded innocent to all charges, including lying to Congress, obstructing an investigation by the attorney general, shredding or altering government documents, illegally using travellers checks earmarked for the contras, illegally using a tax-exempt organisation to funnel military aid to the contras and accepting an illegal gratuity — a \$14,000 home security system — while still a government employee.

North has admitted committing several of these acts, but insists he is innocent of crime because he had no criminal intent and acted with authorisation from the highest officials in the Reagan government, including the president.

Sullivan will complete his summation Wednesday, followed by a prosecution rebuttal. The jury is expected to begin deliberations by noon Thursday.

## Chinese students defy warning, stage protests

PEKING (R) — Crowds of Chinese students defied official warnings Wednesday and staged a third day of pro-democracy demonstrations in Peking's Tiananmen Square.

Three thousand students at Fudan University in Shanghai, China's biggest city, also held a peaceful campus rally, voicing demands for democratic rights.

Tue were unconfirmed accounts from official sources of student unrest in other major cities.

Students who took part in this week's protests — the biggest spontaneous demonstrations in Peking since 1976 — said they had no organisation and were not sure how the escalating confrontation with authorities would be resolved.

Many came simply to mourn the death of former Communist Party leader Hu Yaobang by bearing wreaths and a giant portrait to the centre of Peking's vast square, but others used the occasion to press for democratic reforms.

Students from Peking University and other colleges chanted "Oppose dictatorship" and

"long live democracy."

A placard with the words "overthrow dictatorship" was seen on the People's Heroes Monument in the centre of the Square.

More than 3,000 students marched peacefully past party and government headquarters where crowds had demonstrated for five hours early on Wednesday before being dispersed by police.

State radio and the official New China News Agency announced that some people wanted to use Hu's death last Saturday "to create and incite trouble."

The demonstration outside the Zhongnanhai compound, where some of China's leaders live and work, was illegal, the official statement said.

"We are not afraid of the authorities. This is a patriotic duty," said one undergraduate in reply.

The Communist Party announced that a memorial service for Hu would be held April 22 in the Great Hall of the People which runs along the western edge of Tiananmen Square.

Students said they expected universities to try to stage a rival ceremony in the square. They

realised security forces would probably seal off the whole area.

Hu, a liberal reformist, was forced to resign as party leader by hardliners who accused him of betraying communism for Western political ideas after nationwide student demonstrations calling for democracy and freedom.

Although Hu was disgraced and put into political limbo for the rest of his life, the authorities have portrayed him since his death as a great revolutionary and statesman. No reference has been made to his earlier alleged "mistakes."

Wednesday's Communist Party newspaper People's Daily had three front-page pictures of Hu and one on the back showing him playing against senior leader Deng Xiaoping at bridge.

A senior Western diplomat said Zhao Ziyang, who succeeded Hu in January 1987, could stand to gain from the student actions.

"This mass outpouring of grief should not hurt Zhao. It would be difficult, near suicidal to think of dumping Zhao," the diplomat said, commenting on some Western news reports Zhao could be ousted, like Hu, by party hardliners this year.

## Voodoo gear found at house of Mexican satanic drug ring

MEXICO CITY (Agencies) — A voodoo doll and a pair of makeshift altars apparently used for animal sacrifices were displayed Tuesday in a suburban home owned by the alleged "godfather" of a drug ring accused of the ritual killings of 15 people.

Mexican police said the house and an apartment in downtown Mexico City belonged to Cuban-American Adolfo de Jesus Constanzo, 26, said to have practised "satania," an Afro-Cuban mix of voodoo and Catholicism which condones bizarre animal sacrifices.

Constanzo, who four suspects in Mexican custody identified as their satanic "godfather" is still at large and believed to be in the United States.

Police allowed journalists into the two-storey house in Atizapan de Zaragoza, an upper-middle class suburb outside Mexico City, which was discovered at the weekend.

Inside the house, equipped with an elaborate closed-circuit television security system, reporters were shown two altars with dried fruit, beads, black cloaks, burnt cigars, half-empty liquor bottles and geometric drawings

on the walls.

At one altar hidden in a back room was a doll of an old man sitting in a chair, apparently serving as a centrepiece.

Some of the ring's victims, dug up last week from a mass grave on a ranch near Matamoros, just across the border from Texas, were said to have been used in sacrifices aimed at invoking satanic protection for the group's smuggling operations.

Police at the Atizapan de Zaragoza house said they did not have evidence of human sacrifices at the house, but they declined to discuss further details of their investigations.

Unlike altars used by the ring found in Matamoros, there were no signs of animal organs or blood at the Atizapan de Zaragoza house, but neighbourhood children led reporters to a nearby vacant lot where several headless chickens were found discarded.

The children said they saw men from the house throw the chickens into the lot.

"They took (the chickens) out in black bags and threw them in the lots," said one boy.

A U.S. grand jury has indicted 11 people on drug charges, including the alleged "godfather"

and "godmother" of the cult of drug smugglers blamed for 15 deaths.

Constanzo, and the alleged "godmother," Sara Aldrete Villarreal, were charged along with nine other people late Tuesday by a federal grand jury in McAllen, Texas.

They were charged with conspiracy to import marijuana, importing marijuana, conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute the drug and possession with intent to distribute, authorities said. Four men are in custody in Mexico and another suspect was arrested Monday in Houston.

Meanwhile, a Mexican police official said most of the 15 bodies exhumed in a rural area over the past week were those of drug traffickers and not random sacrificial victims.

Juan Benitez Ayala, commander of the federal judicial police, in Matamoros, said the investigation had shifted to Mexico City, where officials believe several murders are linked to Constanzo.

Benitez refused to comment on statements he made to reporters Monday, when he speculated that Aldrete, 24, may have been killed by Constanzo because she knew too much about the organisation.

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